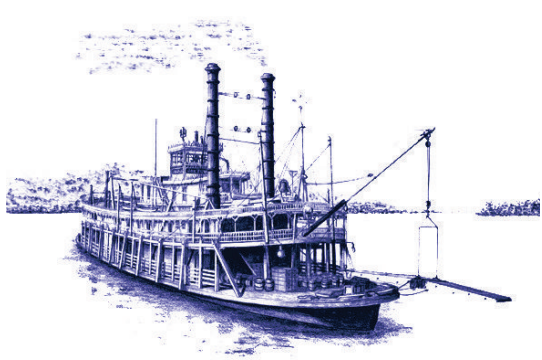




SPORTS

SOUTHWESTERN
SOCCER DEFEATED NO.
8 OLDENBURG IN THE
REGIONAL
SEMIFINALS. SPORTS
PAGE B1

THE MADISON COURIER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025

Serving the Courier area since 1837

NEWSSTAND • \$1.75

Mayor lists targets for redevelopment

BY BOB DEMAREE

Mayor Bob Courtney laid out a plan focusing on housing, infrastructure and quality of life for the city of Madison at Tuesday's Redevelopment Commission meeting.

"Those are the core three things that we're doing, and I think they coincide very well with the Redevelopment Commission as well as our key initiatives for economic development planning and making investment in our community," the Mayor said. "The next couple of

years you'll see a tremendous amount of investment in all three of those categories, plus new capacity building" that includes water and sewer.

Among the housing initiatives, Courtney cited the recent rezoning of a three-block area on Vaughn

Drive from Jefferson Street to St. Michaels Avenue. "That was part of a larger review of our city-wide ordinances that haven't been updated for over a decade. We're going to continue to work on that area, and bring to the Redevelopment Commission a proposal hopefully

by the end of the year," he said.

Courtney also cited the city's single family entry level market as "an area we're continuing to focus on. We are talking to several developers about the development of new single

SEE **MAYOR/PAGE A6**

Comfort Crosswalk



Bob Demaree

Work began this week by crews with All-Star Paving on a mid-block flashing signal and crosswalk from the Main Street Comfort Station to the Main Street parking lot as part of the city's safety improvements. Next week, milling and paving is scheduled to begin on Main Street from Mill Street to St. Michaels Avenue.

Work crews chiseled up a section of sidewalk for construction of a mid-block flashing signal and crosswalk from the Main Street Comfort Station on the south side of Main to the to Main Street parking lot on the north. The work is part of a plan to calm traffic on Main Street and make the area safer for pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

Bob Demaree



Mundt named interim Madison police chief

Scudder resigns from MPD

BY BOB DEMAREE

Rick Mundt has been named Interim Chief of Police for the city of Madison following an announcement by Mayor Bob Courtney on Tuesday.

In conjunction with Mundt's appointment, Police Chief Shawn Scudder was reassigned to his prior rank of Sergeant and later resigned from the department on Thursday.

Mundt, a 30-year veteran of Madison Police Department, had most recently served as Assistant Chief of Police but he has held multiple leadership roles throughout his career including Crime Scene Investigator and Patrol Captain. A 1989 graduate of Southwestern High School, Mundt continued his education at Ball State University where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Criminology.

"The safety and well-being of our residents remain our top priority," said Courtney. "We are grateful to the men and women of the Madison Police Department for their ongoing commitment to protecting our community. As we move forward, I have full confidence in Assistant Chief Mundt's leadership.

I will continue to support our officers and ensure that essential public safety services remain strong and effective."

Scudder assumed the role of Chief of Police effective Jan. 3, 2024, following the retirement of John Wallace. Scudder had been serving as a Detective Sergeant prior to his appointment as police chief.

Scudder is a 2002 graduate of Madison Consolidated High School and had served with the Madison Police Department since July of 2013. He is an Indiana Law Enforcement Academy graduate and has received training in instructor development, ICAC Undercover Chats and crime scene investigations. He has

SEE **MUNDT/PAGE A6**



Rick Mundt



Shawn Scudder

CHARLIE'S BEAT

Ryle writes a love letter to small town

"One foggy morning, an e-mail appears in inboxes across the small town of Lanier, Indiana, population 12,234. 'Invitation to Participate: Sex in the Midwest,' the subject line reads. A link leads to an extensive survey, but why has Lanier been chosen? And by whom?" Thus reads the promo copy for a new book written by Madison's very



CHARLIE ROHLFING

own Robyn Ryle, her fifth and what promises to be her most widely distributed and read effort to date. "The town of Lanier is fictional," explains Robyn, "but astute readers will recognize some similarities to Madison, no question. The entire novel is really a love letter to small towns, the slower pace and quality of life we all enjoy here in the Midwest. There's

something very beautiful about the way we live. I like to think the chaos of the world gets kind of blunted by the time it gets to us. And you have to get along with each other in ways you might not in a big city.

"Sex in the Midwest" is Robyn's fifth published book. There is one other fiction work, a young adult novel titled "Fair Game." And there are three non-fiction books, one about gender, one about sports and one is a sociology textbook.

"When I first went to college I was thinking about journalism," says Robyn, "but then I took a creative writing class and it changed the trajectory of my life. I ended up majoring in English and Sociology. That background brought me to Hanover College 21 years ago where I became a professor of sociology and gender studies. My husband and I have lived in historic downtown Madison for 18 years now in a 200-year-old house. "Sex Of the Midwest' might

be described as a post-pandemic novel. That time of upheaval and change had such a big impact on all of us, but it affected us differently here in the small towns than it did in New York or LA. I wanted to explore that dynamic through some interesting and diverse characters.

"There's a character waiting for a lung transplant. There's a bartender having a mid-life crisis. And there's a kid who's been

SEE **RYLE/PAGE A6**



High
Low
Details, Page A2

INSIDE

Calendar
Comics
Features

A2 Records
A4-5 Sports
B7

A2
B1-8

DEATHS, A3

Shirley Basham
Clifford Cook
George Eaglin
David Orrill

Bonnie Roberts
Sasha Borman
James Campbell
John Ellis

Dennis Lory
Jerry McGuire II
Michelle Phipps
Gregory Snow



Are you looking for a job with competitive pay and flexible hours?

Considering a career in education?

Looking for a way to get involved with students in our school community?

We invite you to attend one our our upcoming **OPEN Substitute Teacher Training** sessions to learn more!

Friday, October 17, 2025 - 9 am, 11 am, or 3 pm
Wednesday, October 22, 2025 - 9 am or 3 pm
Friday, October 24, 2025 - 3 pm
Wednesday, October 29, 2025 - 9 am or 3 pm
2421 Wilson Ave., Madison, IN

Per diem rates:

\$97.50 - high school diploma
\$105 - Associate Degree or 60+ hours
\$120 - IN licensed or retired teacher or Bachelor Degree from an accredited institution

It is the policy of Madison Consolidated Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or age, in its programs or employment policies as required by the Indiana Civil Rights Act (I.C. 1971, 22-9-1); Public Law 218 (I.C. 1971, Title 20); Titles VI and VII (Civil Rights Act 1964); the Equal Pay Act of 1973; Title IX (1972 Education Amendments); Public Law 94-142; and Public Law 93-112, Section 504.

Carroll to seek financing for 4 major projects

BY MARK CAMPBELL

Although the current projects on tap are unlikely to require such funding, Carroll County Fiscal Court has agreed to borrow up to \$10 million through the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) Finance Corporation Bond Pool to finance four major expenditures. Four major projects — a new communication tower and radio equipment, courthouse renovations, a project to implement energy savings in Carroll buildings across the board and an update to the county’s early warning siren system — are expected to cost about \$6 million. However, fiscal court on Tuesday agreed to the higher spending limit to provide enough contingency to secure the money needed for the projects without the risk of having to go back to KACo or other funding sources should the project exceeded \$6 million. The courthouse project, a significant renovation to correct water damage and other deficiencies that have developed over a number of years, is expected to need about \$4 million of that funding while the radio upgrades are expected to cost up to \$1.5 million for a new tower and to get the county’s first responders all on a radio system that allows communication across departments.

Magistrate Scott Nab at first questioned the higher loan amount — given the annual debt service on \$10 million might be more than the county can afford — but agreed to the amount with the understanding that Carroll should not need to approach that figure and can ultimately only borrow what is needed based on the final costs and bids. One of the issues raised during the discussion in support of the high number was the current instability of federal government grant programs triggered by the budget shutdown. County officials think there will be grant money available to help fund the radio purchases but whether those grants will still exist to come through after ongoing budget negotiations is an uncertainty. "We don’t know if the grants will come through but every day we wait (to move forward with the radio upgrades) we are putting somebody’s life in danger," said Magistrate Clay Cable, who as a firefighter knows firsthand the communication issues the county’s various first responders face and the dangers that presents in safely providing services. Cable suggested the county should update the radios regardless of how that purchase falls in grant cycles or federal funding. “We all need to be able to communicate with each other,” he said. “We need to close

that gap quickly. We need to hit this head on.” Carroll County Sheriff Ryan Gosser agreed, noting that while some radios might be able to wait on grant availability to assist with funding but if not the county “needs to be prepared to pay if it is needed.” Matt Dusing, Carroll County’s director of Government Services, said the county’s grant application is on file but the paperwork arrived just as the federal government shutdown was taking place so there is no way to know where the application stands currently or when the government shutdown is likely to end or how long the process will then take. One question that was raised without further discussion was whether Carroll County should pay for radios for all first responders or if some of that funding should come from the cities and emergency agencies. However, the main objective is making sure all systems can communicate with each other. In other business, the court: • Denied a request for additional funding for the Carroll County Community Development Corporation this year but agreed to monitor the CCCDC’s relationship with the county’s economic and business goals and consider the request during budget deliberations next year. The issues stated were

that the budget is already set and Carroll is already paying for an economic development staff member. At the same time it was noted that the CCCDC is hoping to extend its role beyond economic development into business development by building collaborations with the local Chamber of Commerce and those in other communities in the region. • Approved the purchase of new security cameras for county government properties at seven sites at a cost of \$38,000 for the equipment and installation and \$244 per month maintenance contract. Given losses to theft and vandalism, as well as liability exposure in cases involving injuries, the magistrates approved the contract with Laswell Securities & Automation of Louisville for an expanding security camera system that allows for data backup and real-time monitoring of Carroll County properties using a cellphone program. • Heard a report that the Carroll County Animal Shelter is currently reviewing its policies and regulations to bring updates to the court in the future. Among the changes considered so far is an application process for volunteers, a form to be completed in the event of dog bites, and a policy mandating a one litter limit per animal so that residents who call on the shelter to pick up multiple litters of puppies from the same dog must

surrender the dog on an subsequent rescues. • Responded to a letter issuing a nuisance violation against the county for a county-owned piece of property located in English. Deputy Judge Mike Humphrey said the property was “inherited” by the county in its current condition and is littered with debris and junk, but the county should follow the same ordinance imposed on private citizens and address the violation. Judge-Executive David Wilhoite and the magistrates agreed and assigned the cleanup to the road department once they have completed fall paving work that is time sensitive to weather and when the asphalt plant closes for winter. • Approved spending \$24,000 to refurbish and upgrade a youth ball field that was poorly designed and has fallen into disrepair at Robert M. Westrick Memorial Park. Parks Director JP Dale said the field is currently used only for practice but could see other uses if upgraded. He said it needs to have the surface leveled and filled and reseeded for that to happen. Wilhoite suggested completing the work as soon as possible to make the field not only usable by youth leagues but also ADA compliant events like Special Olympics and the magistrates agreed.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER LODGINGS Oct. 13, 2025

Camela Faye Consley, 51, Madison, on a Jefferson County arrest warrant (neglect of a dependent, domestic battery, resisting law enforcement, possession of marijuana and paraphernalia). Bond \$5,000 cash. **Oct. 14, 2025** Jeanetta Sue Hammon, 58, Madison, for Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated-Bodily Injury, a Level 5 felony; Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. No bond. Kayden Keller, 23, Madison, for Battery on a Person Less Than 14 Years Old, a Level 6 felony. No bond. Robert A. Robak, 43, Madison, on an arrest warrant (drug and paraphernalia charges). Bond \$10,000 cash. Clayton T. Rowilson, 35, Madison, on a Jefferson County bench warrant (drug trafficking, maintaining a common nuisance and paraphernalia charges). Bond \$50,000 cash. Jeremy Allen Spry, 33, Seymour, Indiana, on a Jefferson County bench warrant (domestic battery and interference charges). Bond \$5,000 cash. **Oct. 15, 2025** Jerry Bushong, 61, Madison, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor; and on a Jefferson County warrant for Failure to Appear (drug and operating while intoxicated charges). Bond \$1,000 cash. **Oct. 16, 2025** Tyler Ray Hon, 33, Madison, on a Jefferson County warrant for failure to appear. Bond \$250 cash. Darren Keith Stewart Jr., 31, Madison, for resisting Law Enforcement, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond.

JEFFERSON COUNTY CIRCUIT & SUPERIOR COURT SENTENCINGS Oct. 14, 2025

Mario Cartelle Johnson-

Hollins, 31, Madison, for Domestic Battery, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail with credit for 68 days served and balance suspended to supervised probation plus \$439 in fees and court costs. Gilberto De Jesus Munoz Marroquin, 34, Madison, to an amended charge of Knowingly Operating a Motor Vehicle Without Ever Receiving a Driver’s License, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to 4 days jail, served, plus \$189.50 court costs. Steven R. Leep, 71, Madison, to amended charges of Resisting Law Enforcement, a Level 6 felony; and Operating While Intoxicated-Endangering a Person, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 364 days at Indiana Department of Correction on the felony charge with credit for 64 days jail served and 300 days suspended to supervised probation, concurrent to 364 days in the Jefferson County Jail on the misdemeanor charge, with credit for 64 days served and 300 days suspended to supervised probation plus \$589.50 in fees and court costs.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS JEFFERSON COUNTY Oct. 10, 2025

Janet Kay Kleopfer and Thomas Ray Anderson to Revocable Living Trust of Tom Anderson and Janet Kleopfer, 210 Cherry Drive, Madison. Thomas E. Blaha and Mindy Blaha to Thomas E. Blaha (trustee) and Thomas E. Blaha Trust, approximately 92 acres at 8771 East Vernon Ridge Road, Madison. Terry C. Abbott and Marie C. Abbott to Deborah McCauley, 161 Autumnwood Lane, Madison. Paulette Boncutter, Angela Howatt and Paulette Boncutter (power of attorney) to Terry Abbott and Marie Abbott, 427 Vine Street, Madison. Ben Flint Sheriff of Jefferson County, Jefferson County Sheriff Ben Flint and Hannah R. White (defendant) to Citizens Bank NA, 7617 South State Road 62, Lexing-

ton. Bernard Johnson and Anthony L. Hammock to Jerry Briner, 1020 East First Street, Madison. Anthony L. Hulman and Lisa A. Hulman to Anthony L. Hulman and Lisa A. Hulman, 2286 and 2294 South Bluff Run Drive, Hanover.

Oct. 14, 2025

Rodney Upchurch, Omer Curtis Upchurch (estate) and Curtis Upchurch to Rodney Upchurch, 6277 East State Road 62, Canaan.

Oct. 15, 2025

Beau Recon LLC and Beau Gray to Beau J. Gray (revocable trust), Beau Gray (trustee) and Beau J. Gray Revocable Trust, 2311 North-west State Road 62, Hanover. Rodney Liptak and Cary L. Lipak to Rodney Liptak, Cary L. Lipak and Lindsey J. Wilson (life estate), 1847 Wells Drive, Madison. Victoria A. Louden and Edward Louden Jr. to Robert J. Haggerty and Kathleen T. Haggerty, 510 East First Street, Madison. Todd J. Bruther and Todd J. Bruther Revocable Trust to Cosmos O. Cooper, 3979 West Deer Bend Drive, Hanover. William Robert Underwood and Nancy Underwood (deceased) to William Robert Underwood, 1597 Crozier Avenue, Madison. Alan Ray Wright to Anthony Marcel Ray Wright, 113 and 115 East Street, Madison. Alice J. Fitzgerald and Alice J. Smith to Alice J. Smith and Leonard E. Smith, 2320 West Clifty Hollow Road, Madison. Dr. Leonard E. Miller to Leonard E. Miller and Alice J. Smith, 1300 Wells Drive, Madison. Donald J. Frazee (trustee), Ronald J. Frazee Living Trust, Barbara A. Frazee and Barbara A. Frazee Living Trust to Walter L. Harden and Brandy L. Harden, 1003 East Street, Madison. Josh Cline and Donna Cline to Michael Delagrange Jr. and Wilma Graber, approximately 126 acres at 11000+ West 410 North Deputy and 11000+ West Deputy Pike road, Deputy.

Lotteries

INDIANA
Hoosier Lotto: 9-14-19-27-28-40 (10/15). **Estimated Jackpot:** \$4.2 million. **Next Drawing** (10/18)
Cash Five: 3-11-24-30-32 (10/15)
Cash 4 Life: 2-24-27-36-51 CB: 3 (10/15)

KENTUCKY
Cash Ball: 16-27-29-31 CB: 21 (10/15)
Lucky For Life: 13-25-27-31-46 LB: 17

(10/15)
MEGAMILLIONS: 12-22-49-57-58 **MB:** 19 (10/14) **Next Jackpot:** \$625 million. **Next Drawing** (10/17)
POWERBALL: 10-13-28-34-47 PB: 15, PP 3 (10/15). **Next Estimated Jackpot:** \$295 million. **Next Drawing** (10/18)
POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 5-20-27-44-51 PB: 21 (10/15). **Next Estimated Jackpot:** Up to \$10 million. **Next Drawing** (10/18)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS
"Late Bloomer" Art Opening Reception
Madison Area Arts Alliance
THE SPOT, 326 Mulberry Street, Madison
Friday, Oct. 17, 5-8 p.m.
Two local artists, Bill Barnes and Theresa Strohl present their art at the SPOT, proving for these "late bloomers", it's never too late to follow your dreams. Artist talks at 6 p.m. Art will be on display at the SPOT through the middle of November. Free.

Eleutherian College Fall Gathering
Historic Eleutherian College
6927 West State Road 250, Madison
Saturday, Oct. 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

There will be tours throughout the day of the building founded as Eleutherian Institute in 1848, was a school founded by local anti-slavery Baptists at Lancaster in Jefferson County.

All Hallows Eve
Saturday, Oct. 18, 4-7 p.m.
Switzerland County Historical Society
208 East Market Street, Vevay
"All Hallows Eve" ventures into mystical Halloweens of the past and will be held on the museum grounds. Enjoy storytelling, games, crafts and treats.

Spooktacular
Hanover Community Park
Saturday, Oct. 18, 5-8 p.m.
Kids dress in costume for booths the give away candy with games, prizes and more including a costume contest.

Halloween Downtown
Carroll County Courthouse Square, Carrollton
Saturday, Oct. 18, 5-8 p.m.
Carrollton Main street program event will include activities for all ages including pumpkin carving and painting, a costume contest for all ages, and a Trunk or Treat.

Creatives Meetup
Madison Area Arts Alliance
THE SPOT, 326 Mulberry Street, Madison
Sunday, Oct. 19, 1-3 p.m.
Beejay Elles will be sharing some playful and innovative ways to approach abstract painting. Donation-based event. Register on MadTix.
Coffee Shop of Horrors Art Exhibit
Analog Coffee
329 West Main Street Street, Madison
Friday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m.
Storyteller Bob Hartsaw reads works by Edgar Allen Poe.
Madison Performing Arts Foundation Concert

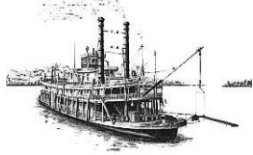
The Horszowski Trio
Madison Presbyterian Church
202 Broadway Street, Madison
Saturday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m.
The Horszowski Trio, based in New York City, formed in 2011 with Jesse Mills on violin, Ole Akahoshi on cello and Rieko Aizawa on piano.

BLOOD DRIVE
Red Cross Blood Drive
Trimble County High School
1029 U.S. 421, Bedford, Kentucky
Friday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Appointment times may be scheduled before arriving by calling 800-733-2767, going to redcrossblood.org, or downloading the Blood Donor App.

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS
Salvation Army Food Bank
331 East Main Street, Madison
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, Noon-1 p.m.
A food giveaway at the red door on east side of building. Bring your own bags. For more information, call

812-265-2157.
House of Hope Food Pantry
100 East Second Street, Madison
Tuesdays 5-7 p.m.; Fridays, 9-11 a.m.
A food giveaway and distribution at the Jefferson County House of Hope Food Pantry in downtown Madison. Please arrive at the pantry 15 minutes prior to closing to be served.
North Madison Christian Church Food Pantry
1400 East State Road 62
Saturday, Oct. 25, 8-10 a.m.
A food distribution at the church on the fourth Saturday of each month (with the exception of holidays). Free with no qualifications.

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS
Jesus Clothes Closet
Trinity United Methodist Church
412 West Main Street, Madison
Mondays, 9-11 a.m.
Jesus Clothes Closet distributes free clothing to those in need.
For more information, call 812-866-4843.



THE MADISON COURIER

WWW.MADISONCOURIER.COM

(USPS 325000)

Published two days a week on Tuesday and Friday.

Periodical postage paid at Madison, IN and additional mailing offices. Please send address changes to: The Madison Courier, 310 West St., Madison, IN 47250 **812-265-3641**

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT
Shelley Phoenix (812) 265-3641, press 3
Circulation Department: (812) 265-3641, press 1
Classified Ads/Legal Advertising (812) 265-3641, press 2

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
Mark Campbell, Editor (812) 265-3642
David Campbell, Sports Reporter (812) 265-3641, press 5
Bob Demaree, Reporter (812) 265-3644

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In-county print and digital: \$60 annually
Digital only: \$4 per month
Out of area: \$90 annually

BIRTHDAYS

Editor’s Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

BIRTHDAYS Oct. 17

Carson Roark
Devin Rowe

Oct. 20

Anna Berry
Laura Schafer
Bill Sullivan

Oct. 21

Dale Crafton

Vernon Morris - 59

Oct. 22

Wayne Dunlap
Eric Phagan

Oct. 23

Shannon Dattilo
Ruth Heightchew

Oct. 27

Crystal Anderson
Linda Bailey

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:52 a.m.
Sunset: 7:01 p.m.
Temperature: High 71, Low 46, Mean 58.5, Deficit 0.6
Precipitation since last published: 0

Precipitation, October 2025: .82
Precipitation, 2025: 48.65
Barometer 29.98, Rising
River Level at Clifty Creek: 421.74 feet, Steady

Forecast: Saturday: Partly cloudy High 82/Low 58; Sunday: Rain High 62/Low 40; Monday: Sunny High 68/Low 51; Tuesday: Showers High 67/Low 40.

OBITUARIES

Clifford Randall Cook

Clifford Randall Cook, age 73, of Hanover, IN, and the son of the late Charles Thomas and Helen Bernice (White) Cook, was born on Dec.16, 1951, in Paoli, IN. On Feb. 4, 1978, he was united in marriage to Phyllis Ann (Grey) Sturgill in Paoli, IN, and they enjoyed 45 wonderful years of devoted love to one another. From the young age of 15, he began working as a cook and then later put up telephone lines. Finally, he joined the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Hall Local 1393, out of Indianapolis, IN, where he put up power lines all over the United States. For a short time, he got laid off and worked for Marble Hill in Jefferson County, IN, and then for Brittany's Factory in Paoli. He returned to work with IBEW until he got hurt and almost died in May of 2003, in Hamilton County, IN.

Clifford loved making wooden crafts, building things, doing automotive work, vegetable and flower gardening, and putting puzzles together with his wife. He enjoyed watching



NCIS, Dancing with the Stars, Disney shows, and movies, the Die Hard movie series, and the Rocky and Rambo movies. He was an avid fan of country music, especially Shania Twain, and loved decorating, and going all out for Christmas, each year. Clifford was very fond of his Chevy Silverado truck and his Mustang, which he bought and later gave to his daughter when she turned 16 years old.

Clifford was a believer in Jesus Christ and was baptized along with his wife by Pastor JD Traylor in 1984, and they became faithful members of Hanover Baptist Church. He was a very caring, loving, and hard working husband, father,

and grandfather. He would help anyone if they needed help and always had to stay busy. More than anything, he enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. Mr. Cook passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025 at the Kindred Hospital in Louisville, KY.

His life will be cherished by his daughters: Cynthia Ann (Cook) Smith and Tess Renea Sturgill, both of Hanover; his siblings: Larry Ray Moore, Penelope "Penny" Delight Bailey, Vicky Darlene Warren, Tami Jo Allen, Charles Thomas Cook, Jr., Michael Kevin Cook, and Melissa Dawn Craig; his grandchildren: Natasha Marie Melton, Justin Charles Brooks, Kori Scott Breeding, Dakota Monroe Breeding, Trey Matthew Sturgill, Brandon Lee Smith, Dakota Eric Storm Watts, Troy Scott Smith, Teanna Nashea Sturgill, Tia Rayne Sturgill, Stephanie Tavine Ann Watts, and Cameron Blake Sturgill; 15 great grandchildren and one coming soon; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles Cook; his step-father, Ronald Dean Qualkenbush; his mother, Helen Qualkenbush; his loving wife, Phyllis Ann Cook; his son, Jamie Edward Sturgill; his siblings: Sandra Lynn Dixon, John "Bill" William Cook, and Jeffrey Kent Cook; one grandson, Damien Sturgill; his nieces: Candy Warren, Sandra Pearson, and Tabitha Payton; and one great niece, Hannah Archer.

Reverend JD Traylor will conduct funeral services at 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, at Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Vail Chapel, 117 Holt Drive, Madison, with interment to follow in Hanover Cemetery in Hanover, IN.

Friends and family may visit at the Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Vail Chapel from 11 a.m., until the time of the service on Saturday.

Online condolences can be made at www.lytlewelty.com.

Bonnie Jean Montgomery Roberts



Bonnie Jean Montgomery Roberts, age 75, of Madison, IN, entered this life on April 25, 1950, in Key West, FL. She was the loving daughter of the late Robert George and Betty Jean Donaldson Montgomery. She graduated from Princess Anne High School, Virginia Beach, VA in 1968. In 1972, she graduated from Old Dominion University, then received a master's degree from Belarmine University in 1996. On Dec. 29, 1974, she was united in marriage to Wallace Edward Roberts in Anderson, South Carolina. This happy union of 50 years was blessed with three sons, Joshua, Caleb, and Sean. Bonnie retired after 27 years from teaching school in Jennings County, IN. Bonnie later taught at the Madison State Hospital for a few years. She and her husband have lived in the Canaan, area since 2001, and in Madison, since 2016. Bonnie enjoyed teaching, reading, and crafts. She was a member of Indian-Kentuck Baptist Church where she helped her husband minister for 18 years as well as taught Sunday school and Bible school. Bonnie died on Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025, at 3:02 p.m., at the Norton Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Bonnie will be missed by her loving husband of 50 years, Pastor Ed Roberts of Madison, IN; her loving sons, Joshua Edward Roberts of Bloomington, IN, Sean Andrew Roberts of Denver, CO; her step granddaughters, Shannelle and Aaliyah; her brother, Robert Donald Montgomery and his wife Kerry of Valdosta, GA; her brother-in-law, Samuel

Roberts and his wife, Cora of Birmingham, AL; her sister-in-law, Margaret Riechert and her husband, Bill; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, Robert George Montgomery, her mother, Betty Jean Donaldson Montgomery, and her son, Caleb Montgomery Roberts.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, Oct. 20, 2025, at 11 a.m., by Pastor Rod Asher at the Indian-Kentuck Baptist Church, 4413 East 925 North near Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Canaan Cemetery in Canaan, IN.

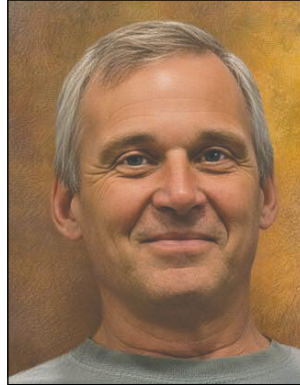
Friends may visit Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025, from 4-7 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN, and Monday, Oct. 20, 2025, from 10 a.m., until the time of service at the Indian-Kentuck Baptist Church, 4413 East 925 North near Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's or SIDS Research. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

David William Orrill

David William Orrill, age 67, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Sept. 10, 1958, in Defiance, OH. He was the loving son of Edward M. and Elizabeth Goodrich Orrill. He was raised in Madison, and graduated in 1976 from Madison Consolidated High School. He then graduated from Lincoln Tech as an ASE Certified Mechanic. He was united in marriage to Janice St. Louis and this union was blessed with a son, David Edward. He worked with the Jefferson County Highway Department and then owned and operated Dave's Auto Body in Madison. He then worked with Hawkins Industrial in Scottsburg, and then he owned and operated Jefferson County Motors in Madison. David was also a self-employed mechanic and worked in car sales. He loved collecting cars, old hot rods, riding his motorcycle, and photography. He really loved his first car, 1969 Mustang Mach 1, and his dog Toby. David died on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at his home in Madison, IN.

David will be missed by his loving father and mother, Edward M. Orrill, and Elizabeth Goodrich Orrill of Madison, IN; his loving son, David Edward Orrill and his wife, Tiffany of Paris Crossing, IN; his grandchildren, Samantha, Lucas, and Elizabeth; his sister, Kathryn "Kathy" Anne Joyce and her husband, Kenny of Madison, IN; his brother, Kevin



Edward Orrill and his wife, Marlene of Commiskey, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Edward M., Sr. and Katherine Erny Orrill and Perce and Gaynell Graber Goodrich.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Pastor Karen VanderPloeg at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Interment will follow in the Fairmount Cemetery in Madison.

Friends may visit Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jefferson County Animal Shelter and the Madison Presbyterian Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com

HMI awarded \$50K grant for Sullivan House

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Historic Madison Inc. (HMI) is among 20 historic organizations to receive funding from the Indiana Historical Society in its latest round fo Heritage Support

Grants that awarded \$724,000 throughout the state.

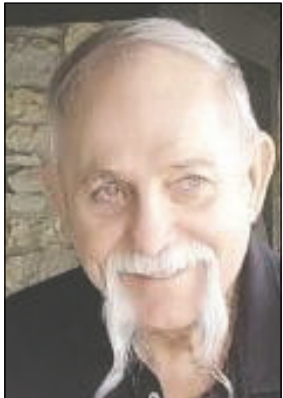
HMI received \$50,000 to construct an accessibility ramp and exterior restroom enclosure as a part of a

SEE **HMI/PAGE A6**

George Leonard Eaglin

George Leonard Eaglin, age 79, of Gosport, IN, formerly of Madison, IN, entered this life on Sept. 30, 1946, in Madison, IN. He was the loving son of the late George F. and Mabel Birley Eaglin. He was a 1965 graduate of Warren Central High School. He married Joice Magdaline Meador on May 28, 1976. He worked for Chrysler Corporation for 31 years as an oiler, retiring in 1997. Afterward he became a realtor, and worked for Down Home Real Estate and Auction for over 20 years. He lived in the Madison, area until 1961, when he moved to northern Indiana. He was a member of the Whitaker Baptist Church and the United Auto Workers Union. He enjoyed working, fishing, and spending time with his wife. George died on Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025, at the Plainfield Health Care Facility in Plainfield, IN.

George will be missed by his daughter, Julie Wonnell of AL; his step daughter Sheri Hutchison and her husband, Mark of Columbia, KY; his son, Zachary Eaglin of Brazil, IN; his step son, David Coy and his wife, Lorie of Charlottesville, VA; his grandchildren, Jovon Tipton, Jr., Rondale Hamilton, Hillary Sowder, and Zach Hutchison; his great-grandchildren, Zadie, Corbin, Kyndrah, Lennox, and Jude; his brother, Charles Eaglin of Greenwood, IN; his sisters, Jayellen Walker of Plainfield, IN, Kathy Whitehead of Lexington, IN, Jeanette Moon and



her husband, Ted of Fishers, IN, Carol May and her husband, Danny of Madison, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, George F. Eaglin, his mother, Mabel Birley Eaglin, his wife of 47 years, Joice Magdaline Meador Eaglin, his son, George William Eaglin, and his step daughter, Rhonda Lee Bush.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, at 12 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison.

Interment will follow in the Springdale Cemetery, 600 West Fifth Street in downtown Madison.

Friends may visit Saturday from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison.

Memorial contributions may be made to Donor's Choice. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Shirley Joan Hill Basham

Shirley Joan Hill Basham, age 89, of Madison, IN, entered this life on June 10, 1936, in Terre Haute, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late George W. and Mary Helena Thompson Hill. She was raised in Oakland City and attended school there. On May 27, 1952, she was united in marriage to Tommie A. Basham, Jr. This happy union of 58 years was blessed with sons, Tommie Allen III and Daniel Ray, and daughters, Rebecca Lynn and Kimberley Lynn. She went to Cosmetology School to become a cosmetologist and beautician. Shirley owned and operated "The Beauty Hut" in her home for 30 years. She resided in Princeton and Owensville, IN, for many years moving to Madison in 2010. She was of the Baptist faith and was a member of the VFW Auxiliary. Shirley died on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025, at 10:26 a.m., at her home in Madison, IN.

Shirley will be missed by her loving son, Daniel Ray Basham of Princeton, IN; her loving daughters, Rebecca Lynn Lenaart and her husband, Mike of Deaver, Wyoming, Kimberley Lynn Myers and her husband, Steve of Madison, IN; her grandchildren, Michelle, Stephanie, Jolene, Tommie IV, Tiffany, and Zachary; several great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; her brother, Haskell Davis (Robin) of TX; her sister, Jackie Ann Sanders (Charlie) of Oakland City, IN; several



nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, George W. Hill, her mother, Mary Helena Thompson Hill Davis, her husband of 58 years, Tommie A. Basham, Jr., died April 13, 2010, her son, Tommie A. Basham, III, and her brother, Gary Hill.

Funeral services will be conducted on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Pastor Caleb Brewster at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road Madison.

Friends may visit on Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025, from 11 a.m., until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison.

Memorial contributions may be made to Our Hospice. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Saturday, Oct. 18 at Garnett New Funeral Home in Warsaw, www.gnmfh.com.

Michelle Lynn Phipps, 60, of Hopkinsville, KY, and formerly of Bedford, KY, died Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2025, in Clarksville, TN. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Gregory Allen Snow, 71, of Ghent, KY, died Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at Carroll County Memorial Hospital in Carrollton, KY. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, at Graham-Dunn Funeral Home in Carrollton, with burial to follow at the Ghent Cemetery in Ghent, www.grahamdunnfh.com.

John W. Ellis, 93, of Dry Ridge, KY and formerly of Campbellsburg, KY, died Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025, at Russell County Hospital in Russell Springs, KY. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean Conflict. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Campbellsburg, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Dennis Wade Lory, 65, of Hanover, IN, died Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025. Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Monday, Oct. 20, at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Jerry Lee McGuire II, 55, of Warsaw, KY, died Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025. Service will be at 11 a.m.

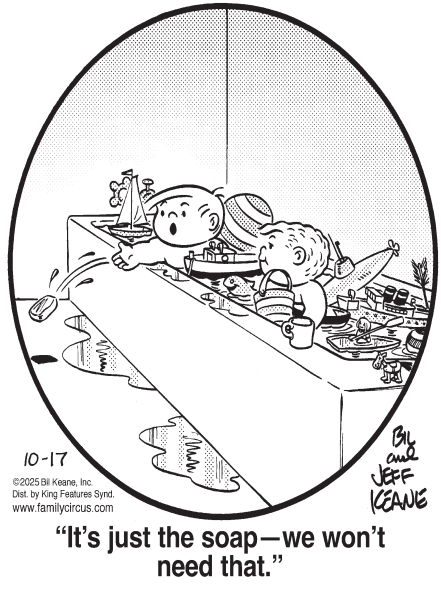
FUNERALS

Sasha Nicole Anderson Bor-man, 36, of Hanover, IN, was found deceased on Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025, near her home in Hanover. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, IN, with interment to follow in the New Bethel Cemetery near Chelsea, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

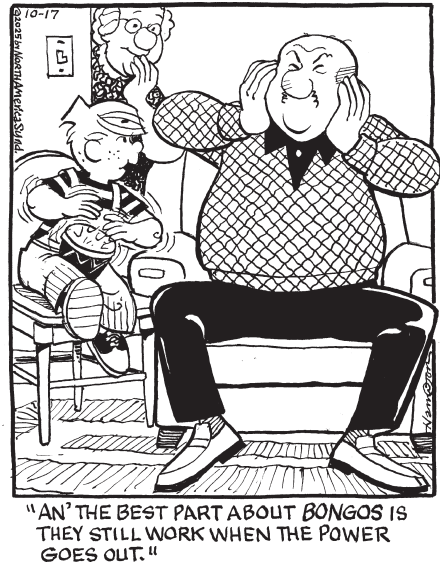
James C. Campbell, 50, of Hanover, IN, died Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025. Friends and family will conduct a waterfront memorial at a date and time to be determined with his final resting place in Sturgeon Bay, WI. Arrangements by Morgan amd Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

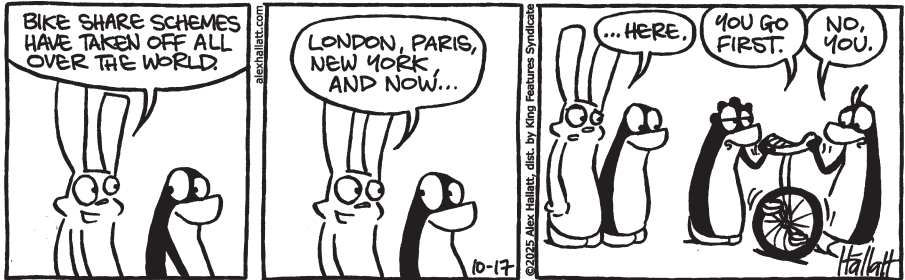
By Bil Keane



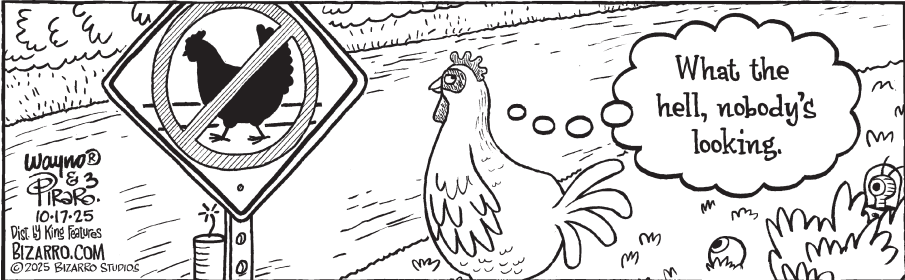
DENNIS THE MENACE



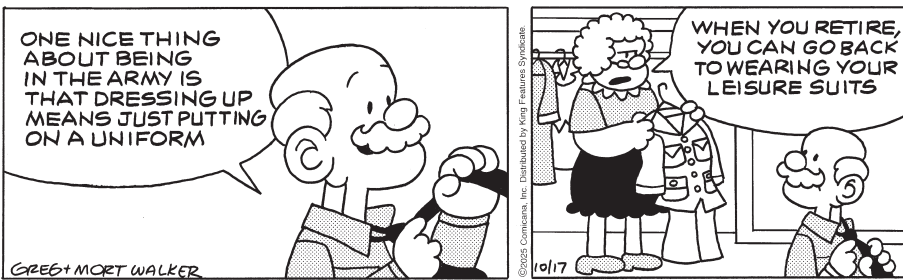
ARCTIC CIRCLE



BIZARRO



BEETLE BAILEY



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



BLONDIE



CURTIS



HI & LOIS



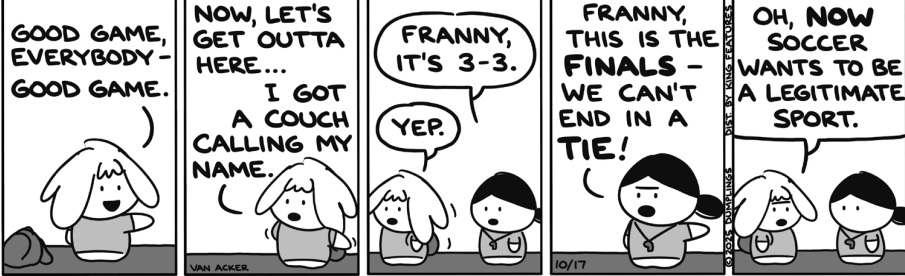
PARDON MY PLANET



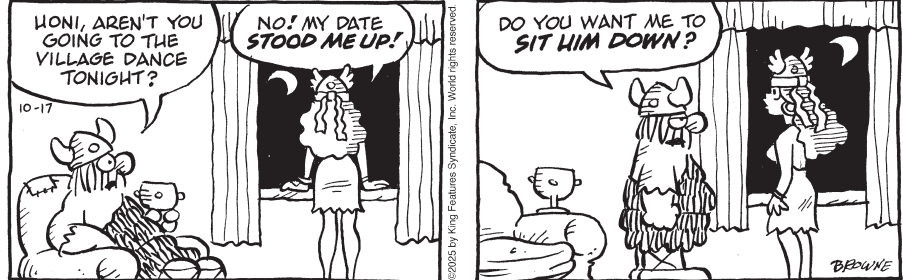
ZITS



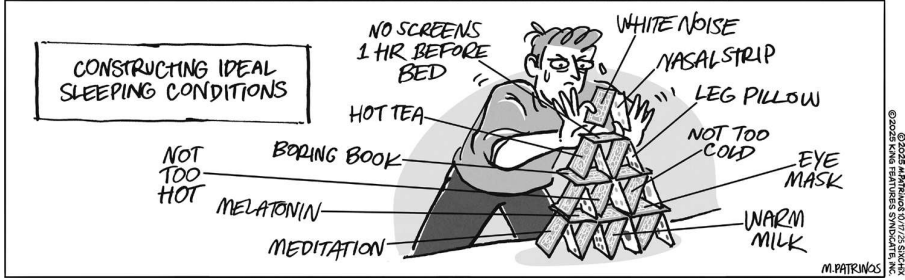
DUMPLINGS



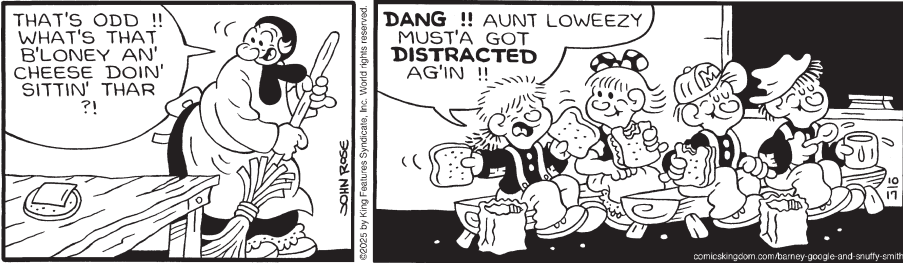
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



SIX CHIX



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



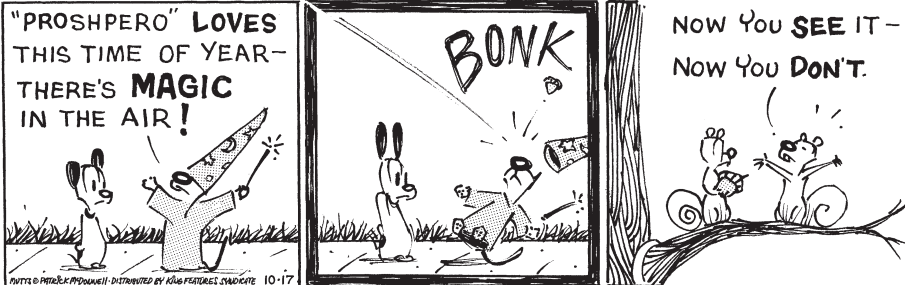
SALLY FORTH



DUSTIN



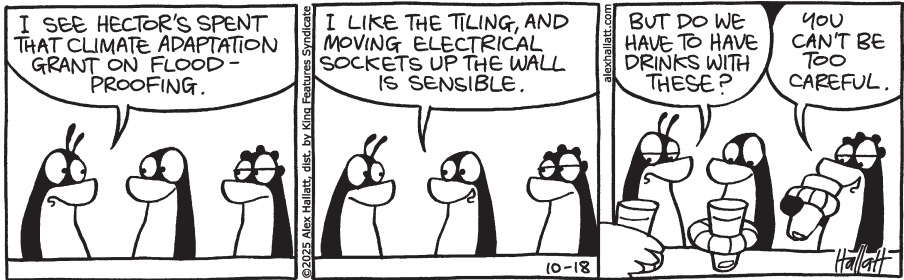
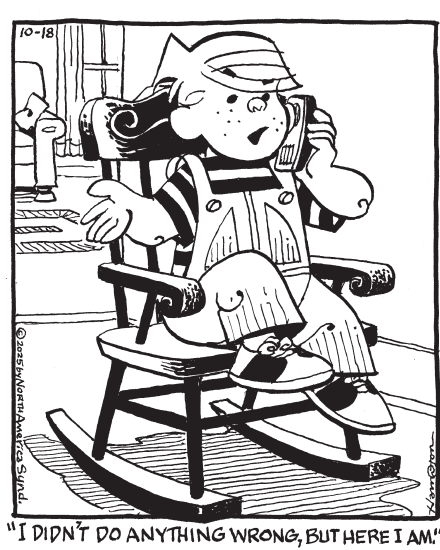
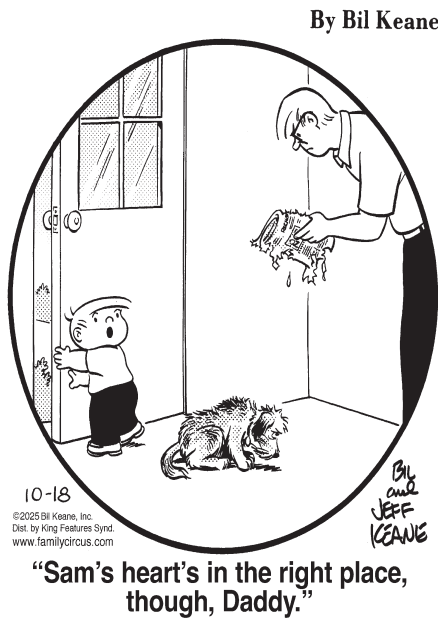
MUTTS



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

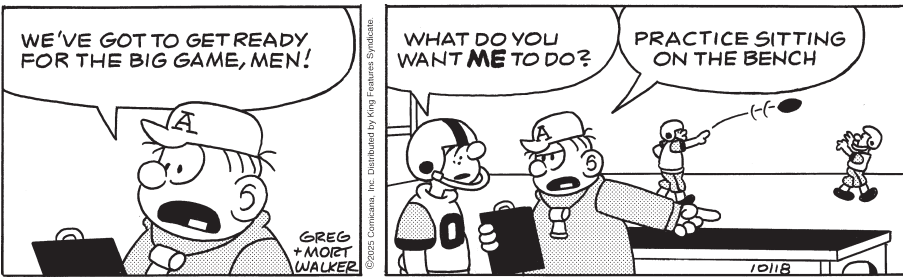
ARCTIC CIRCLE



BIZARRO



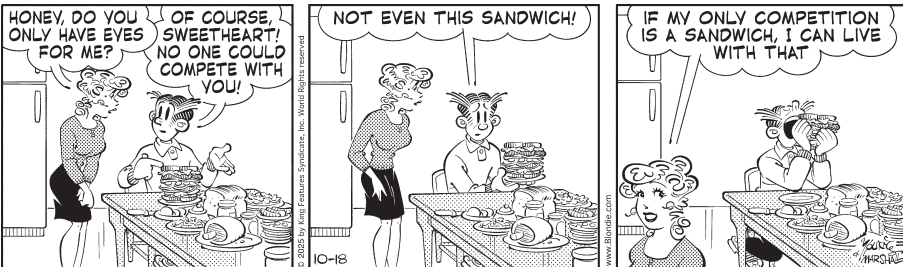
BEETLE BAILEY



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



BLONDIE



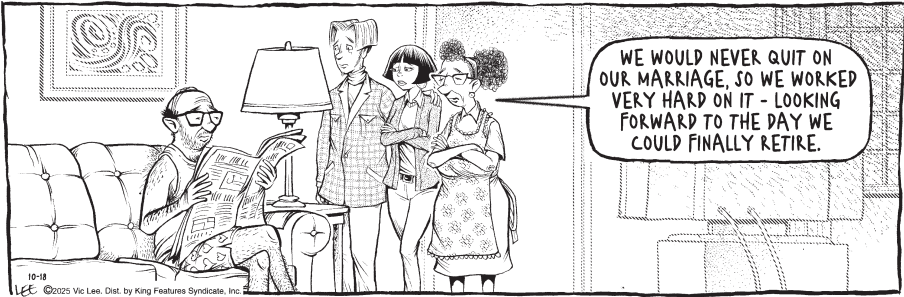
CURTIS



HI & LOIS



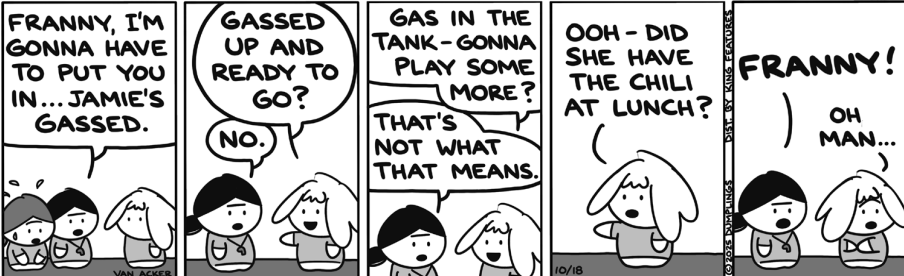
PARDON MY PLANET



ZITS



DUMPLINGS



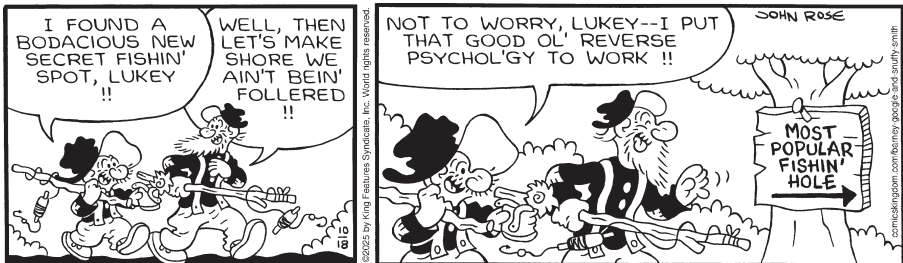
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



SIX CHIX



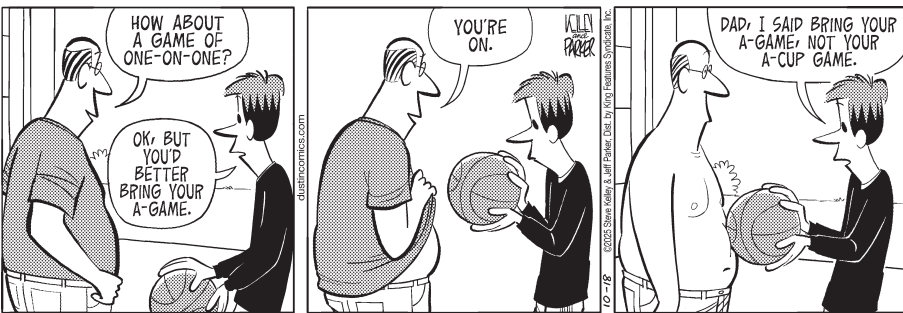
BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



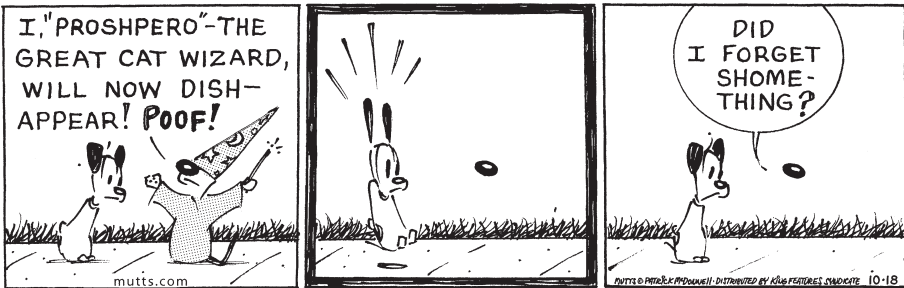
SALLY FORTH



DUSTIN



MUTTS



HMI

FROM PAGE A3

restoration of the Jeremiah Sullivan House.

Last month, HMI received approval from the Historic District Board of Review by a 4-1 vote for the restroom to be placed within the footprint of the first floor porch with the ramp.

HMI Executive Director John Staicer noted at that meeting that the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and Indiana building code requires any major rehabilitation of a public accessible property to provide a handicap accessible restroom.

Earlier this month, HMI also received \$15,000 from the Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County to provide ADA-compliant accessibility to the Jeremiah Sullivan House.

The Heritage Support Grants program, provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc., offers critical funding to local, county and regional historical societies, museums and sites. The grants support projects that address high-priority needs in collections stewardship, capacity building, sustainability and planning.

In Jennings County, the Hayden Historical Museum received \$5,000 to complete a historic structures report on former Indiana Gov. Edgar D. Whitcomb’s boyhood home in Hayden.

Also, in Dearborn County, \$5,000 was awarded to the Hillforest Historical Foundation Inc. for a historic structures report on its 1855 mansion listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Other recipients include: Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company, Howard County — \$100,000 to complete cosmetic and structural restoration of Union Traction Company Interurban Rail Car No. 429, preparing it for operational use as the centerpiece of an electric heritage railway.

International Circus Hall of Fame, Miami County — \$100,000 to stabilize and assess the Wagon and Baggage Shed on its National Historic Landmark campus, housing historic wagons and artifacts.

Carmel Clay Historical Society, Hamilton County — \$50,000 to establish a paid internship program for collections management and to purchase archival supplies and equipment.

Cass County Historical Society, Cass County — \$22,848 to cover architect fees for designing a permanent, secure exhibit space for their rare 1920 ReVeré Tourer automobile.

MUNDT

FROM PAGE A1

held positions on the Ivy Tech Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Community Corrections Advisory Board and Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce.

Courtney said new fiscal challenges created by the Indiana General Assembly’s passage of Senate Bill 1 had no impact on his decision with regard to Scudder.

“Per state law, Scudder has been reassigned to his prior rank of Sergeant and Interim Chief Mundt will determine his new shift responsibilities,” Courtney said prior to Scudder tendering his resignation. “Public safety is a high priority for my administration, and I felt new leadership was needed at this time. Chief Mundt is a career officer with Madison Police Department, and I have full confidence he will do a great job as we embark on the selection process for a new chief in the next several weeks.”

Evansville Wartime Museum, Vanderburgh County — \$19,234 to install three interactive touchscreen displays to showcase World War II maps, wartime contributions and rotating exhibits.

Friends of the 1818 Rome Courthouse, Perry County — \$50,000 to begin restoring century-old windows of Indiana’s second-oldest public building, advancing its use as a community center and museum.

Friends of the Huntington City-Township Public Library, Huntington County — \$42,000 to digitize endangered copies of the Huntington News newspaper (1930–1969) and create a free online archive.

Friends of the Marion Public Library and Museum, Grant County — \$14,950 to hire a coordinator to digitize and research 300 Chronicle-Tribune photographs related to local Black history.

Indiana Entertainment Foundation, Marion County — \$17,000 to digitize high-priority audio and image files for a free public archive.

Madison County Historical Society, Madison County — \$31,000 to complete installation of a fire suppression system protecting important museum collections.

Montgomery County Historical Society, Montgomery County — \$22,353 to replace aging HVAC units and purchase environmental monitoring equipment for collections preservation.

Reitz Home Preservation Society Inc., Vanderburgh County — \$50,000 to repair the foundation and roof of the Ice Box Room at the Reitz Home Museum.

The Indiana Album Inc., Marion County — \$28,475 to purchase digitization equipment and train assistants to conduct scan-a-thons, preserving 6,000 historical images from underrepresented communities.

Twin Forks Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Inc., Franklin County — \$20,000 to complete stabilization of the North wall of the Brookville Stone House, an 1829 structure which the DAR plans to use to house and make archives accessible to the public.

Union Literary Institute Preservation Society, Randolph County — \$25,000 to remove remains of the North wall of the historic Union Literary Institute, the first school in Indiana to admit both Black and white students.

Washington County Historical Society, Washington County — \$50,000 to rehabilitate its 1929 Monon Railroad Caboose with roof, siding and safety improvements.

RYLE

FROM PAGE A1

out in San Francisco coming back to his small hometown. Overlaying their stories is this mysterious sex survey email that everyone in town received, but no one knows who sent it or why. It allowed me to really explore the changes in our social lives amid the lingering feelings of loneliness and isolation after Covid.

“I truly believe that small towns are so much weirder than people realize, and I can dramatize and share that through these main characters. As I said before, the whole project is a love letter to small town America. Those of us who live here know how truly special and interesting it can be.”

“The book is being published by Galiot Press out of Boston, which is a brand new publisher, and it’s actually their first book. The company was founded by two women who weren’t happy with what was coming out of mainstream publishing, and they wanted to create a platform for different voices. I think there was something novel about the Midwest tone of my book that really caught their attention, it’s so different from the east coast mindset.

“Early reaction to the book has been very gratifying. It earned a coveted ‘Starred Review’ from Kirkus Reviews, which anyone in the publishing or bookwriting world will recognize is kind of a big deal. I’m super excited to share it with my friends, the local community, and

the whole world.” The book can be pre-ordered right now from any of the online book outlets (Amazon, etc.), and it is available locally at NEAT store on Main Street, right between Crawdaddy’s and Mary’s Shear Perfection.

HOT TIP OF THE WEEK

I don’t think people truly realize the consistency and quality of the live music scene in Madison. When we talk about there being “live music every weekend” we don’t mean just on festival weekends. Or just on the occasions when Red Bicycle Hall or the Ohio Theatre have special ticketed shows. We’re talking about every single weekend, 52 weeks a year, rain or shine, hot or cold. This weekend is a good case in point. There are no special events scheduled (although MadHop Fest is coming up Nov. 4, get your tickets now!) There is no big festival going on. But nevertheless, Friday and Saturday nights are literally packed with live music opportunities all over town. Our nightlife is the main reason that sets Madison apart as maybe the best weekend getaway spot in the entire region. So make your plans, book your room, and check it out for yourself!

Charlie Rohlfing is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle Hall music venue. Look for his distinctive fedora bobbing above the crowd anywhere local live music is happening.

MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE
Friday, Oct. 17
Riverboat Inn – Gary Brown
1st Street Saloon –



Handout

Madison author Robyn Ryle, whose new fictional novel “Invitation to Participate: Sex in the Midwest” was released recently.

Canyon Wolf with Ron Poston
Timeless LIVE! – Radio Face (8-11 p.m.)
Rivertown Grill – The Keith Swinney Band (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
TailGators – DJ Scratchy Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Tiki LIVE! – L&L Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
The Central – Fred Elam
Mad Paddle – Singo Bingo (7-9 p.m.)
Mad Paddle – Karaoke (9 p.m.-Midnight)
Saturday, Oct. 18
Riverboat Inn – Rich Hardesty
1st Street Saloon – DJ Nate
Thomas Family Win-

ery – Jerry King & The Fall City Boys
The Drake – Joe & Deano (7 p.m.)
Mad Paddle Brew-stillery – Runaway Souls (8 p.m.)
TailGators – Malachi Parks Band (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Tiki LIVE! – L&L Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Rivertown Grill – The Cryptids (9 p.m.-1 a.m.)
Sunday, Oct. 19
Rivertown Grill – Brett Denney BD32 Music (7 p.m.-1 a.m.)

MAYOR

FROM PAGE A1

family homes in the city of Madison. There is a growing need” that is “very comprehensive, multi-layered, all demographics related to income, age, hilltop and downtown. It is much needed.”

Housing investment that Courtney said has been actively taking place this year includes the PACE program that provides for the rehabilitation and remediation of existing structures, the Habitat for Humanity home builds, and the apartment units currently under construction at the Residences at Sunrise Crossing.

With regard to infrastructure, Courtney noted that throughout the city there is work on roads, sidewalks, storm drainage, water, sewer and more. “All of those things are in the planning stages or under construction.”

He said recent paving, stormwater improvements and sidewalk installations on Clifty Drive is “helping to transform that corridor” and noted that on Main Street in downtown Madison “there is a comprehensive plan for pedestrian safety, crosswalk safety, traffic calming and beautification.”

Speaking on quality of life, Courtney said, “We’ve had one year after another when we’ve made multiple parks investments.” Currently, work is underway to extend the Heritage Trail to the entrance of Clifty Falls State Park and soon there will be plans announced for improvements at Damon Welch Park, formerly known as Jaycee Park.

In other business, the Commission:

- Approved \$300,000 for PACE funding this year. “We have already committed most of that,” said Nicole Schell, the city’s director of planning. Brenna Haley, the city’s historic preservationist, said 35 projects have been approved for PACE grants this year out of 52 applications. Since the program was created in 2014, Schell said 324 projects have been approved out of 440 appli-

cations submitted.

- Approved splitting a four-acre tract of land at the City of Madison’s industrial property at Shun Pike and

J.A. Berry Lane into a pair of two acres tracts. “Two acres are more in demand,” said Deputy Mayor Tony Steinhardt III, noting

the change is expected to create more interest from potential investors. In June, a two-acre parcel of land was sold to Ralston Renovations.

What Happens When Social Security Isn’t Enough to Cover Your Needs?



Layin’ it on the line

By Stephen Dybwad
Retirement Planning/
Wealth Management

What Happens When Social Security Isn’t Enough to Cover Your Needs? For many retirees, this isn’t a hypothetical question—it’s a daily reality. Social Security provides a foundational income, but for most people, it only replaces about 30% to 40% of pre-retirement earnings. That leaves a significant gap, especially when you factor in rising costs for essentials like housing, health care, and food. So what happens when those monthly checks simply don’t stretch far enough?

The most immediate consequence is financial stress. Retirees on fixed incomes quickly find themselves having to make difficult choices. Do you skip a needed

medical procedure to pay for utilities? Do you downsize your home or take on debt to cover basic living costs? These are not uncommon dilemmas, and they can undermine the sense of security retirement is supposed to provide. Over time, financial strain can also affect physical and mental health, leading to increased isolation, anxiety, and even depression. Another harsh reality is the depletion of personal savings. When Social Security falls short, many retirees turn to their savings to fill the gap. Unfortunately, those savings can disappear quickly, especially in the early years of retirement. If markets decline or unexpected expenses arise, you may find yourself spending down your assets far faster than planned, leaving little for later in life or for legacy purposes. To bridge this gap, retirees need additional, reliable sources of income. One increasingly popular solution is the use of fixed or fixed indexed annuities, which provide guaranteed lifetime income. These products create a personal pension, offering consistent monthly payments that, when combined with Social Security, can cover your core living expenses. Unlike market-based investments, annuities protect your

principal and offer stability—even in turbulent economic times. Planning ahead is key. Rather than waiting to see whether Social Security will be enough, it’s far wiser to build a retirement income strategy that assumes it won’t be. This means evaluating your future expenses, identifying the gap, and filling it with income you can count on—regardless of how long you live or what the market does. Social Security is a valuable benefit, but it’s not a complete solution. When it’s not enough to cover your needs, the consequences can be steep. With proper planning and the right tools, however, you can secure your financial future and enjoy retirement with confidence—not concern.

Stephen Dybwad, a long-time Hoosier resident, is a member of Syndicated Columnists, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to money management. Syndicated Columnists is the sole provider of this material, both written and conceptual, for this column. All rights reserved.

Kasper Insurance
220 Clifty Drive
Madison, IN 47250
Telephone 812-273-1187.
Stephen Dybwad
(annuity.com)

YOUR
CUSTOMER
JUST READ
THIS AD.
**ADVERTISE
WITH US.**

County Council holds hearing on \$29.7M budget

BY BOB DEMAREE

A public hearing was held Tuesday by County Council on a 2026 Jefferson County budget totaling \$29,718,559 with a \$12,901,701 General Fund and a 0.7728 proposed tax rate. Once adopted, the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) will review and approve the final budget by the end of the year. Of the overall budget,

\$24,043,246 is reviewed by DLGF, with the remaining \$5,675,313 home-ruled funds not reviewable by DLGF. The overall 2025 budget was slightly less at \$29,075,061. The County Council will meet to adopt the budget on Monday, Oct. 27. In other business, the council:

- Approved \$179,000 for the tax conversion to Low Associates, a government software company

based in South Bend, utilizing American Rescue Plan funds that had been allocated for that purpose prior to the end of 2024. Council President Chris Shelton said county employees in the government offices in the Courthouse are “loving it because it’s all clicking together and working in harmony.”

- Approved \$80,000 from ARP funds for renovations that are required to make the new portion of the former Jefferson County

Jail eligible to be utilized as a juvenile facility. The funds had been allocated for that purposed prior to the end of 2024.

- Approved a transfer of \$6,500 from Courthouse/Commissioners funds from janitor supplies to part-time help. Huff noted there was savings in supplies, and a part-time person has been hired for Courthouse cleaning, which had previously been a contracted

position.

- Approved a transfer of \$8,205.56 in cumulative capital development fund from equipment purchases to computer maintenance for covering a deductible from a lightning strike that caused damage to electronics at the Courthouse in 2022.
- Approved an additional appropriation of \$4,000 to animal shelter supplies coming from animal shelter donations.



Julio Cortez/AP photo

Bottles of medicine ride on a conveyor belt at a mail-in pharmacy warehouse in Florence, N.J., on July 10, 2018.

Prescription drug coverage options shrinking for Medicare shoppers

BY TOM MURPHY
AP HEALTH WRITER

Fewer choices may be on the menu again as Medicare patients shop for prescription coverage this fall. The number of available, stand-alone drug plans has fallen for a few years, and that trend will continue for 2026. Most markets will still have several choices, but some options are becoming particularly sparse for shoppers with low-income subsidies. And help may be harder to find because some insurers no longer pay brokers commissions for new business. Shoppers have from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7 to find new coverage that starts in January. Some things to consider:

HERE'S WHO NEEDS A MEDICARE PART D PLAN
Regular Medicare, which most people qualify for after turning 65, does not come with prescription coverage, known as Part D. People must choose that separately. About 23 million people with regular Medicare have this stand-alone coverage, according to the non-profit KFF, which studies health care. Another roughly 34 million people have Medicare Advantage plans, which are privately run versions of Medicare that often come with prescription coverage.

HOW MEDICARE PART D PLANS ARE CHANGING
A typical shopper will be able to choose a stand-alone drug plan from among eight to 12 options for 2026, according to KFF Medicare expert Juliette Cubanski. That's down from 12 to 16 options in 2025. Shoppers had nearly 30 choices as recently as 2021, according to the Commonwealth Fund's Gretchen Jacobson. Depending on the state, a range of one to four plans will be available at no premium to people who qualify for low-income subsidies, according

to KFF. Eight were available in 2021. Some insurers are reducing their presence in stand-alone Part D plans, while the Blue Cross-Blue Shield carrier Elevance is leaving the market entirely. Insurers and analysts who follow the industry note that the Inflation Reduction Act, which will cap annual out-of-pocket drug costs at \$2,100 in 2026, puts more financial pressure on insurers. The same law now allows patients to spread the cost of prescriptions over the year.

THERE ARE STILL MANY MEDICARE PART D OPTIONS
Most markets will have several choices. But experts say Medicare Part D customers don't like to shop, especially if they already have a plan that covers their medications. Finding affordable coverage for multiple prescriptions can be tricky.

"I think there's a lot of inertia and, frankly, people may be concerned that if they switch, they're going to end up worse off," Cubanski said. More people are being pushed to shop. Nearly 11% of those with stand-alone prescription drug coverage lost their plan in 2024, according to research published recently in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Before 2023, that figure was often under 1%, said Dr. Christopher Cai, one of the researchers involved in the study.

HERE'S HOW MEDICARE PART D PRICES ARE CHANGING
Monthly premiums, or coverage prices, will fall nearly 10% on average to \$34.50, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced last month. At least one option with a premium of under \$20 exists in almost every region of the country, according to the consulting firm Oliver Wyman. Individual prices will range widely, with premiums for the

same plan varying by state, Cubanski noted. But while plans may provide lower coverage prices, they could also raise deductibles or offer more limited lists of covered drugs, which are called formularies. Shoppers should check these details. Insurers will be allowed to raise premiums by as much as \$50 a month for 2026, up from a \$35 increase allowed this year. But Cubanski said only some plans will hit that higher limit and not necessarily in all states.

WHERE TO GET HELP SHOPPING FOR MEDICARE PART D PLANS
Shoppers can use a federal government website to compare plan prices and coverage. States also have a State Health Insurance Program created specifically to help people on Medicare find coverage. Consumers can help themselves by checking their coverage for changes and comparing it with other plans. Shoppers also should consider whether their pharmacy is in the network covered by any plan they are considering, said Jacobson, Commonwealth's vice president of Medicare. Some might also consider switching to Medicare Advantage plans with prescription coverage. But those plans can have more limited networks of covered doctors, which can pose a problem for people with fewer care choices in rural areas.

WHY DELAYING MAY NOT BE WISE
The enrollment window spans several weeks, but brokers say many people wait until that first week in December to make decisions, often after talking with family during holiday dinners. That can create a deadline crunch that makes it harder to find help in early December.



Alex Brandon/AP photo

Energy Secretary Chris Wright listens as President Donald Trump meets with Argentina's President Javier Milei in the Cabinet Room of the White House on Tuesday, Oct. 14 in Washington.

Energy Dept. offers \$1.6B loan to upgrade Midwest power lines

BY MATTHEW DALY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Department of Energy said Thursday it has finalized a \$1.6 billion loan guarantee to a subsidiary of one of the nation's largest power companies to upgrade nearly 5,000 miles of transmission lines across five states, mostly in the Midwest, for largely fossil fuel-run energy. AEP Transmission will upgrade power lines in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma and West Virginia, primarily to enhance enhance grid reliability and capacity, the Energy Department said. The project by AEP Transmission, a subsidiary of Ohio-based American Electric Power, is meant to help meet surging electricity demand from data centers and artificial intelligence. AEP primarily produces electricity from coal, natural gas and nuclear power, along with renewable resources such as wind and hydro-electric power. Thursday's announcement deepens the Trump administration's commitment to traditional, polluting energy sources even as it works to discourage the U.S. from clean energy use. The move comes as the Trump administration has moved to cancel \$7.6 billion in grants that supported hundreds of clean energy projects in 16 states, all of which voted for Democrat Kamala Harris in last year's presidential election. A total of 223 projects were terminated after a review determined they did not adequately advance the nation's energy needs or were not economically viable, the Energy Department said. The cancellations include up to \$1.2 billion for California's hydrogen hub aimed at producing clean-burning hydrogen fuels to power ships

and heavy-duty trucks. A hydrogen project costing up to \$1 billion in the Pacific Northwest also was cancelled. The loan guarantee finalized Thursday is the first offered by the Trump administration under the recently renamed Energy Dominance Financing program created by the massive tax-and-spending law approved this summer by congressional Republicans and signed by President Donald Trump. Electric utilities that receive loans through the program must provide assurances to the government that financial benefits from the financing will be passed on to customers, the Energy Department said. The project and others being considered will help ensure that Americans "will have access to affordable, reliable and secure energy for decades to come," Energy Secretary Chris Wright said in a statement. "The president has been clear: America must reverse course from the energy subtraction agenda of past administrations and strengthen our electrical grid," Wright said, adding that modernizing the grid and expanding transmission capacity "will help position the United States to win the AI race and grow our manufacturing base." The upgrades supported by the federal financing will replace existing transmission lines in existing rights-of-way with new lines capable of carrying more energy, the power company said. More than 2,000 miles of transmission lines in Ohio serving 1.5 million people will be replaced, along with more than 1,400 miles in Indiana and Michigan serving 600,000 customers, the company said. An additional 1,400 miles in Oklahoma, serving about 1.2 million people and 26 miles in West Virginia, serving 460,000 people, will be

replaced. The projects will create about 1,100 construction jobs, the company said. The loan guarantee will save customers money and improve reliability while supporting economic growth in the five states, said Bill Fehrman, AEP's chairman, president and chief executive officer. "The funds we will save through this program enable us to make additional investments to enhance service for our customers," he added. Wright, in a conference call with reporters, distinguished the AEP loan guarantee from a \$4.9 billion federal loan guarantee the department cancelled in July. That money would have boosted the planned Grain Belt Express, a new high-voltage transmission line set to deliver solar and wind-generated electricity from the Midwest to eastern states. The Energy Department said at the time it was "not critical for the federal government to have a role" in the first phase of the \$11 billion project planned by Chicago-based Invenergy. The department also questioned whether the project could meet strict financial conditions required, a claim Wright repeated Thursday. "Ultimately that is a commercial enterprise that needs private developers," Wright said. The company has indicated the Grain Belt project will go forward. Trump and Wright have repeatedly derided wind and solar energy as unreliable and opposed efforts to combat climate change by moving away from fossil fuels. Wright said the Grain Belt Express loan was among billions of dollars worth of commitments "rushed out the doors" by former President Joe Biden's administration after the 2024 election.

Supreme Court rejects Jones' appeal of \$1.4B defamation judgment in shooting

BY MARK SHERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected an appeal from conspiracy theorist Alex Jones and left in place the \$1.4 billion judgment against him over his description of the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting as a hoax staged by crisis actors. The Infowars host had argued that a judge was wrong to find him liable for defamation and infliction of emotional distress without holding a trial on the merits of allegations

lodged by relatives of victims of the shooting, which killed 20 first graders and six educators in Newtown, Connecticut. The justices did not comment on their order, which they issued without even asking the families of the Sandy Hook victims to respond to Jones' appeal. An FBI agent who responded to the shooting also sued. A lawyer who represents Sandy Hook families said the Supreme Court had properly rejected Jones' "latest desperate attempt to avoid accountability for the harm he has caused."

"We look forward to enforcing the jury's historic verdict and making Jones and Infowars pay for what they have done," lawyer Christopher Mattei said in a statement. A lawyer representing Jones in the case didn't immediately respond to an email seeking comment. During his daily show on Tuesday, Jones said his lawyers believed his case was "cut and dry," while he had predicted the high court wouldn't take up his appeal. "I said no, they will not do it because of politics," Jones said.

Jones mocked the idea that he has enough money to pay the judgement, saying his studio equipment, including five-year-old cameras, was only worth about \$304,000. "It's all about torturing me. It's all about harassing me. It's about harassing my family. It's about getting me off the air," said Jones, who urged his listeners to buy merchandise to keep show running. Jones filed for bankruptcy in late 2022, and his lawyers told the justices that the "plaintiffs have no possible hope of collecting" the entire

judgment. He is separately appealing a \$49 million judgment in a similar defamation lawsuit in Texas after he failed to turn over documents sought by the parents of another Sandy Hook victim. In the Connecticut case, the judge issued a rare default ruling against Jones and his company in late 2021 because of what she called Jones' repeated failure to abide by court rulings and to turn over certain evidence to the Sandy Hook families. The judge convened a jury to determine how much Jones would owe.

The following year, the jury agreed on a \$964 million verdict and the judge later tacked on another \$473 million in punitive damages against Jones and Free Speech Systems, Infowars' parent company, which is based in Austin, Texas. In November, the satirical news outlet The Onion was named the winning bidder in an auction to liquidate Infowars' assets to help pay the defamation judgments. But the bankruptcy judge threw out the auction results, citing problems with the process and The Onion's bid.

Planning moves forward on Lilly funding in Hanover

BY BOB DEMAREE

With planning underway for utilizing funds earmarked for the town of Hanover from the College and Community Collaboration grant by Lilly Endowment Inc., resources are being utilized from multiple sources.

Chip Snyder, the director of community relations for Hanover College's Jefferson Together effort, was at Tuesday's Hanover Town Council to talk about all the pieces that are currently at play in that process.

Luckett & Farley architectural firm is the project engineer for the sidewalks, streetscapes and a traffic signal to go at State Road 56 and Kuntz Road. "They're doing the physical stuff," said Snyder.

Meanwhile, four groups of Ball State University students have been involved in planning — one an urban planning group focused on the central part of town where there is a mix of historical properties; another class is doing general land planning at Madison Avenue, File Street and Cythiana Avenue; and Hanover native Megan Phillippe, an architect who specializes in historic preservation, brought her architecture class to Hanover to evaluate home styles. Later next spring, an urban agriculture class from Ball State will visit to focus on the community garden.

Snyder said the urban group has catalogued 1,300 properties throughout Hanover on both sides of State Road 56 to grade them from excellent condition

to poor, rating 70% of them as good to excellent. "I thought that was great," noting those students have expertise in that area.

The casual observer may not see that. "I may drive down the street and see a house that bugs me a little bit, and then I focus on that house, and don't focus on the ones around it."

Snyder emphasized that what the Ball State students will provide is ideas and recommendations to be considered and not an course of action, a point echoed in comments from Council Vice President Treva Shelton. "This is nothing we're voting on to endorse their plan. This is just advice," she said.

The \$30 million Lilly grant is providing \$4 million for sidewalks and streetscapes in Hanover, and \$3.3 million dedicated to the town of Hanover's historic corridor that includes Main Street and Madison Avenue for housing rehabilitation, blight remediation, commercial development and new housing.

Some of those funds for the historic corridor have already been earmarked including restoration of the old Chain Mill building and former Millican house.

There have been questions raised on whether any Lilly historic corridor dollars might be available for improvements to privately-owed historic structures. Snyder said currently there aren't funds dedicated for that, and a budget will need to be established to determine if that might be a possibility.

If that would move forward,

Council member Ben Sommer said a committee would be needed to make the decision who would qualify for funding.

Also, Council member Tim Buxton said there should be a matching component if private residences receive funding, comparing it to the city of Madison's PACE program in which grant recipients must at least match the grant funding amount. "I think if they're going to get money that they need to spend money themselves," he said.

"That's exactly what Lilly expected out" of the \$30 million College and Community Collaboration grant, said Snyder. "They weren't going to fund everything. You've got to have skin in the game."

In other business, the council:

- Held a public hearing on the town's 2026 budget of \$1,209,244 with \$339,775 in the general fund. The budget will be considered for adoption at the Tuesday, Oct. 28, meeting.
- Clerk-treasurer Coby Cloud reported Rumpke will be providing new green recycling carts for town residents. Some have already begun receiving them but each household is due to receive one 95-gallon recycling cart for use starting Nov. 3. They will replace the blue recycle bins that residents can keep or return. Anyone who wants to return their old blue recycle bin or does not want a green recycle tote can call town hall and they will be picked up.
- Hanover Police Sergeant Kyle Pence presented yellow signs to be posted as a safety measure to slow traffic on town

streets where there is a danger to children.

- Approved a \$17,517 contract with Insituform Technologies for work on a slip-lining project at First Street and the river bottoms, where there are old clay lines that need repair. The slip-lining seals the pipelines, keeping out roots that affect water flow.
- Requested that Superintendent of Utilities Scott Williams submit a written list of priorities for addressing stormwater problem areas in the town now that funds are being accumulated from the stormwater fee that became effective earlier this year. Funds were initially used to pay Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors for work on the stormwater rate study but Cloud said that has now been paid and future funds can be dedicated to projects. There is currently \$715 in the stormwater fund that is anticipated to begin growing with approximately \$6,000 collected monthly.
- Hanover utilities employee Eddie Anderson reported that one of the tanks is down at the sewer plant while awaiting a part for the clarifier used to remove heavier solids from the wastewater. The plant remains operational with another tank continuing to function.
- At the Hanover Park Board meeting, Director Scott Davidson said youth volleyball has nine total teams with 90 participants, up from its initial year in 2021 when there were 20 participants.

3 area students named National Merit semifinalists

BY BOB DEMAREE

Three area students have been named semifinalists in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program — Jacob Slade of Madison Consolidated High School; Johnathan Sweeney of Switzerland County High School; and Elianna Fromme of Christian Academy of Carrollton.

Slade, the son of Adam and Elizabeth Slade of Madison, has not yet selected a college but is planning to pursue degrees in engineering and aerospace with a goal of a career with an aircraft company.

"We are incredibly proud of Jacob's outstanding achievement," said MCHS Principal Ronnie Lawhead. "This recognition is a testament to his academic excellence, dedication, and hard work. Jacob exemplifies the high standards we strive for at MCHS, and we know he has a bright future ahead."

Sweeney, the son of Trevor and Janna Sweeney of Vevay, has plans after graduating from high school to attend University of Notre Dame for a degree in political science to pursue a career as a lawyer.

Switzerland County High School Principal Jason Cheek said, "We're very proud of him. He's a good student and a fine young man."

Fromme, the daughter of Kurt and Carolyn Fromme of Glencoe, Kentucky, is undecided on her college choice but is interested in studying education.

This prestigious distinction places them among an elite group of students, representing less than one percent of all high school seniors across the United States.

Slade, Sweeney and Fromme earned this honor based on their outstanding performance on the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®). Each year, more than 1.3 million

juniors from approximately 21,000 high schools enter the program. This year, only about 16,000 of those entrants qualified as semifinalists, a testament to their exceptional academic promise.

As semifinalists, they now have the opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$26 million that will be offered next spring. To advance to Finalist standing, Semifinalists must submit a detailed scholarship application that includes information about their academic record, participation in school and community activities, leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received.

National Merit Scholarship winners will be announced beginning in March 2026. Merit Scholar designees are selected based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments — without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Shawe senior Maggie Stanley was named a commended student in the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program. Stanley, the daughter Dr. Jennifer Stanley and Rory Stanley of North Vernon, is considering attending St. Mary's College, Purdue University or Franklin College to study Environmental Science, Biology or Social Work.

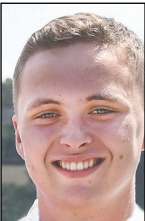
About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top scorers of more than 1.3 million students who entered the competition by taking the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).



Jacob Slade



Elianna Fromme



John Sweeney



Maggie Stanley

Southwestern schools propose \$20M budget for 2026

BY BOB DEMAREE

The 2026 budget for Southwestern Jefferson County Schools was presented at a public hearing Monday with adoption expected at the Oct. 27 regular meeting.

The advertised total budget for Southwestern is \$20,852,232 which includes \$12,830,500 in the education fund, \$6,264,700 in the operations fund and \$1,057,032 in debt service, along with \$700,000 assigned to a rainy day fund. The advertised tax rate is \$3.1652 — 0.3749 cents for debt service and \$2.7903 for operations.

It is anticipated that after being reviewed by the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) that the actual appropriations and actual tax rate will be

lower.

Last year, Southwestern's advertised budget was \$20,164,696 but the actual budget was \$17,184,140. The advertised tax rate was \$2.30 but the actual tax rate ended up being \$1.124.

"I advertise what we need, not what we're going to get," said Corporation Treasurer Laura Boldery, explaining that "if you advertise high you can always lower but if you don't advertise high enough, you can never raise it."

With Indiana Senate Bill 1 projected to decrease property taxes coming to the school corporation, there is considerable uncertainty about future funding for Southwestern.

"There is so much unknown information right now. I did the best I could with what

information I had" in planning Southwestern's 2026 budget, said Boldery.

"There are big cuts coming," she said. "The 2026 estimated change in revenue is not going to hit us really hard" but in 2027, it's projected that Southwestern's operations fund will decrease by \$190,319 and then see a \$206,400 cut in 2028.

Additionally, Southwestern's enrollment is declining which also negatively impacts funding.

Superintendent Jill Mires said Southwestern enrollment is down 30 students since October 2024, and down 17 from February of this year.

Boldery said each decrease in the number of students results in a loss of close to \$8,000 in funding.

"It's \$7,700 per child we're

going to lose besides property taxes we're going to lose," she said. "It's been a hard budget to work on because there are too question marks that you don't know about what kind of money is going to be coming in for us to even have" in the future.

Southwestern's debt service amount will also increase in the next year because the school corporation is paying back the \$2.5 million Common School Construction Loan that funded improvements in Delbert O. King Gymnasium, the new bus compound, a camera surveillance system and other projects.

Adoption of the school corporation's 2026 budget has been scheduled for Southwestern school board's regular meeting Monday, Oct. 27, at 5 p.m.

Bark & Whine: Henry, Trimble Animal Shelter fundraiser collects \$12,300

BY CINDY WARRICK
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Henry County and Trimble County jointly operate an animal shelter on Sligo Road in Trimble County to help share the costs of providing that service to residents of both counties.

For the past several months Heather Chatham, Trimble's director at the shelter, and Danielle Ashcraft, Henry's director at the facility, have seen a need for more financial support with fundraising becoming a necessity.

Belita Dean, a Louisville transplant then new to Trimble County, had responded after the shelter put out a call last winter for straw to help provide bedding during brutally cold weather. Dean stepped up to provide that support and has now done even more.

As Dean talked with the shelter directors, it became clear that she not only loves animals but has vast experience in planning charity events in the Louisville area. With the shelter facing so many needs, Dean once again answered the call, this time using her event planning skills. Details quickly came together — including access to the Richwood on the River event center in Milton that was graciously donated by Colleen Sutton since the date was open in Richwood's scheduling — and a Bark & Whine fundraiser was held Sunday.



Cindy Warrick

Some of the vendor booths inside the Richwood on the River event center in Milton.



Cindy Warrick

A supply donation table at the Bark & Whine event at Richwood on the River and several of the shelter's animals that are available for adoption.

Chatham estimated attendance at about 400 for the event, which had a projected goal of raising \$2,500. However, when the proceeds were all tallied the amount of money raised for the shelter was actually \$12,300, and both Chatham and Dean were elated that the event would allow them

to provide for more needed but unbudgeted items at the center. Sunday's event included vendor booths indoors and a large tent outside where a large variety of items were displayed for a silent auction. The shelter also collected donations of dog food of all kinds, dog life jackets and there were

several dogs on site available for adoption. Jeff Callaway made an appearance with Ethan Almighty, a Presa Canario breed Callaway shelter adopted after the animal was a victim of animal cruelty, later leading to the adoption of Ethan's Law to prosecute animal



Cindy Warrick

Trimble County Animal Shelter Director Heather Chatham and Henry County Animal Shelter Director Danielle Ashcraft with Winston, a shelter dog found abandoned outside the Our Best Restaurant in Smithfield, Kentucky.

cruelty cases in Kentucky. Callaway and Ethan Almighty were both present to support the efforts of the shelter, which earlier this year was involved in prosecuting and obtaining the first conviction under Ethan's Law.

"In addition to prosecution, there are growing efforts to get the state to adopt statutes to provide advocates for the animals though that is not an overnight effort and we are not there yet," said Callaway.

Sports

1A BOYS SOCCER REGIONAL

The 'Higgins Hat Trick' leads No. 17 Southwestern over No. 8 Oldenburg 3-1

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

The only thing better than having one Higgins on your team is having two, and brothers Kaedon and Jaxon Higgins combined to score all three of Southwestern's goals in the Rebels' 3-1 win over Oldenburg Academy in the Class A Boys Soccer Regional semifinals at Madison on Wednesday.

Freshman Jaxon Higgins got the Rebels on the board in the 32nd minute on a breakaway in front of the Oldenburg goal and senior Kaedon Higgins scored the next two goals, in the 62nd and 75th minutes, to put the game out of reach before the visiting Twisters added a goal late for the final margin.

In a season in which Southwestern has won 14 games, it might have been the Rebels' best overall effort to date.

"From our number one all the way to our 29th kid, they all believe that we can do something really special, and they have bought into what the coaches are saying," Southwestern coach Cam Rogers said. "They've bought into what we're trying to do and they go out on the field and just perform at a really, really high level. I mean, it's just awesome to watch."

Southwestern came into the game ranked 17th in the Class A coaches poll with the No. 8, Twisters the third higher-ranked team the Rebels have had to face in their tournament run.

But like No. 5 Shawe and No. 14 Southwestern (Shelby) during Southwestern's march through the sectional, Oldenburg had trouble containing the Rebels' speed, which was on display from the opening kick.

Southwestern attacked immediately and never backed off. And although the Rebels finished with fewer shots than Oldenburg, they had the Twisters on their heels from the beginning.

But it was on defense where Southwestern won the game. Goalie Tryson Warren made seven saves in the game with several coming on close-quarters attempts.

"(Oldenburg's) coach gave me a compliment and said 'No wonder you guys have won 14 games with a keeper like that,'" Rogers said. "It's crazy to think that Tryson didn't play soccer until he was in high school. He bought in, learned from Will Stockdale, who was a fantastic keeper for us, and he's just taking that role, and has just grown so much. I do want to give a shout out to coach Caleb Rogers and coach Isaac Watson, because they are the goalkeeper coaches. We're blessed to have a big coaching staff and they work with Tryson and he has grown tremendously this year because of that."

As well as Warren played, the Rebels' best save came from defender Ayden



David Campbell

Southwestern coach Cam Rogers (left) celebrates with senior Kaedon Higgins after Higgins' goal in the Rebels' 3-1 win over No. 8 Oldenburg Academy in the regional semifinals at Madison on Wednesday. Southwestern now plays No. 10 Indianapolis Scecina (15-4-1) in the regional championship game at Knightstown on Saturday



David Campbell

Southwestern's Connor Johnson (7) heads a shot toward the goal over Oldenburg's Teddy Sheppard (24) during the regional semifinals at Madison on Wednesday.

SEE **SOCCER/PAGE B6**

CLASS 1A VOLLEYBALL SECTIONAL

Shawe battles Rising Sun in opening round loss

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Shawe's first volleyball season in three years came to an end with a three-set loss to Rising Sun in the Class A Girls Volleyball Sectional Tournament at Hauser on Tuesday.

The Hilltoppers have not fielded a volleyball team since the 2022 season when Shawe won the Ohio River Valley Conference championship and reached the sectional final before losing to Trinity Lutheran.

With a roster made up largely of freshman, Shawe struggled in its first season back but showed improvement throughout the campaign.

That improvement was on display in the sectional opener against Rising Sun. The Hilltoppers battled in the first set, falling late 25-18 but struggled in the second set where the Shiners took control from the start and rolled to the 25-14 win.

The third set was tightly competitive at the start with Shawe even holding a 9-8 lead before Rising Sun pulled away to win 25-14.

Rising Sun, now 16-15 on the season, will take on Jac-Cen-Del in the sectional semifinals on Saturday morning at Hauser.

The other opening round games of the eight-team tournament were played on Thursday where Milan (17-10) faced off against Oldenburg (25-5) and Trinity Lutheran (16-11) played Crothersville



David Campbell

Shawe's Jamison Williams (22) passes the ball in front of Maddy Phillippe (2) during the sectional tournament at Hauser on Tuesday.



David Campbell

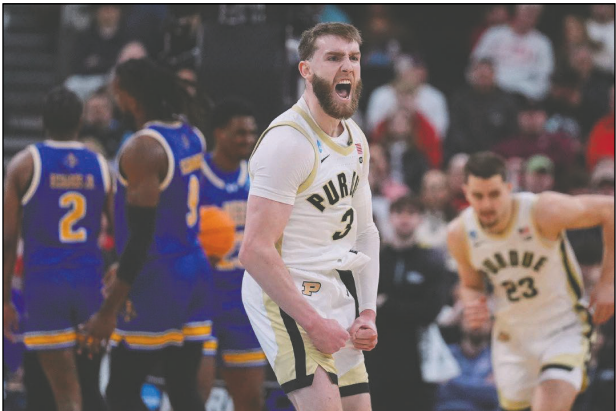
Shawe's Juliet Gardner blocks the shot of Rising Sun's Jaylen Peelman (12) during the sectional tournament at Hauser on Tuesday.

Madison (22-9) hosted the Class 3A Sectional and faced off against Corydon (4-22) in the first game on Thursday with Brownstown (25-5) playing Silver Creek (21-10) in the second game. Those winners will meet in the sectional

(9-11). Those winners will meet in the semifinals on Saturday morning with the championship played Saturday night.

The three other area volleyball teams opened sectional play later in the week.

SEE **CLASS/PAGE B2**



Charles Krupa/AP Photo

Purdue guard Braden Smith (3) celebrates while taking a lead against McNeese State during the first half in the second round of the NCAA college basketball tournament on March 22 in Providence, R.I.

Boiler Up! Purdue tops preseason AP Poll

BY AARON BEARD
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

THE TOP TIER

Kelvin Sampson's Cougars earned 16 first-place votes to match the program's best-ever preseason AP ranking after last year's finals run. The other No. 2 appearance was by the 1967-68 team led by Elvin Hayes.

Todd Golden's Gators earned eight first-place votes to start this year with their highest preseason ranking since the last time they entered a year as reigning champions in 2006-07, the start of a run to a second straight title.

UConn was next at No. 4 and earned the remaining two first-place votes. St. John's was fifth, with Rick Pitino's Red Storm surpassing the program's previous best ranking in a preseason AP poll (No. 7 in 1984-85).

Duke was next at No. 6, followed by Michigan, BYU — which landed the nation's No. 1 recruit in A.J. Dybantsa — Kentucky and Texas Tech to round out the top 10.

QUICK TRANSITIONS

It hasn't taken long for Pat Kelsey to get Louisville back among the national elite, with the Cardinals checking in at No. 11 after a 27-win season to start his tenure. The Cardinals were 12-52 in the two seasons before his arrival.

Louisville is one of five programs with a second-year coach in the preseason poll, joining Michigan, BYU, Kentucky and No. 14 Arkansas with John Calipari.

JAYHAWKS LOWER

Kansas checked in at No. 19, the lowest preseason rank for Bill Self's Jayhawks since starting at No. 24 in the 2008-09 season as the reigning national champion. Kansas had been ranked outside the top 10 only once since that year (No. 13 in 2011-12) while starting at No. 1 in 2019-20 as well as each of the last two seasons in that stretch.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

Friday, Oct. 17

CROSS COUNTRY

Hanover, Wilmington (Ohio) Classic, 4:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Madison hosts Milan, 7 p.m.

Carroll Co. at Bourbon Co., 7:30 p.m.

Trimble Co. at Covington Holy Cross, 7:30 p.m.

Switzerland Co. at Tecumseh, 8 p.m.

SOCCER

Hanover men at Indiana, 7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Hanover at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Championship at Knightstown, 2 p.m.

Madison/Lawrenceburg girls vs. Gibson Southern/Evansville Mater Dei, IHSAA Class 2A Regional Championship at Washington, 4 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Southwestern girls vs. Switzerland Co., IHSAA Class 2A Sectional at South Ripley, 11 a.m.

(championship, 6 p.m.)

Madison/Corydon girls vs. Brownstown/Silver Creek, IHSAA Class 3A Sectional at Madison, 1 p.m. (championship, 6 p.m.)

SOCCER

Hanover men host Manchester, 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19

GOLF

Hanover men, HCAC Preview at Richmond, Ky., 10 a.m.

SOCCER

Hanover men host Manchester, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 20

GOLF

Hanover women, Wittenberg Classic, 10 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Carroll Co. vs. Trimble Co. girls, KHSAA 31st District Tournament at Gallatin Co., 7:30 p.m.



Jennifer Willhoite

Carroll County’s players celebrate with senior Brinley Couch after she scored the Panthers’ lone goal at the 8th Region tourney on Monday in Carrollton. The Panthers won their fourth straight district championship last week over host Henry County in New Castle before bowing out of the tourney to Grant County.

Carroll soccer boys, girls fall in regional opener

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Carroll County's boys and girls soccer teams bowed out of Monday's 8th Region Tournament after both claimed 31st District championships last week.

North Oldham shook off a 2-1 loss to South Oldham in last week's 29th District championship to beat Carroll 5-0 and advance to the 8th Region semifinals against Woodford County with South Oldham facing Simon Kenton in the other regional semifinal.

The Mustangs got two goals from junior Jaxson Benefield, a goal by Braden Ammons and assists by Ammons, Teagan Blandford and Merci Diye in the win

over Carroll while goalkeeper Ira Adamchich needed only three saves to post the clean sheet.

South Oldham and Simon Kenton also advanced without allowing a goal. The Dragons topped Collins 2-0 and the Pioneers beat Gallatin County 8-0. The regional championship match is slated for 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The loss closes out the high school careers of 18 Panthers including Yerson Aguilar, Bernardo Gutierrez, Landon New, Chris Perez, Kyan Johnson, Antonio Perry, Joshua Barrera-Diaz, Zachary Richards, Erick Bautista, Edwin Rodriguez, Cesar Castillo, Danny Roque, JT Davis, Cristian Torres,

Juan Munguia and David Zeitz.

The Panthers will return junior scoring sensation Gamaliel Maldonado, who tallied a combined 11 goals over two district tourney games including four in the championship win over Gallatin County — the final goal breaking the Panthers' single season scoring record held by David Marshall.

Maldonado ended the season with 42 goals — one more than Marshall, who graduated in 2017 and still holds the Panthers' career goals mark with 102.

In the girls regional, Grant County got a hat trick from senior Peyton Gosney and a goal each from Lilly Kaffenberger and Sierra Spahr while Kaffenberger, Spahr, Alyssa Brown, Bella Kaffenberger and McKynzie Saylor each had an assist.

Braves goalkeeper Madison Utter allowed one Carroll goal — by senior Brinley Couch — but stopped 15 Panther shots to lock up the victory.

The loss closes the high school careers of 10 Carroll County seniors including Couch, Makayla Keithley, Keydi Auxume, Olivia Rivers, Rosario Contreras, Grace Huerta, Josie Dale, Jimena Sanchez Gomez, Hemi Dickerson and Evelyn Maiden.

Grant County advanced to play 29th District champion South Oldham in Thursday’s semifinals. The Dragons beat Collins in their regional opener on Monday. Simon Kenton was to face Woodford County in the other regional semifinal with the championship match slated for 3 p.m. Saturday in Carrollton.



Gamaliel Maldonado

Oweh sees NCAA title as achievable goal for UK

BY KEITH TAYLOR
KENTUCKY TODAY

Otega Oweh is still learning and growing.

Oweh went through the NBA Draft process following a successful junior campaign with the Wildcats and said there is still more room to grow as he prepares for his senior season.

“I got some great feedback,” Oweh said earlier this week. “I see myself growing just by coming back and leading this team. We have big goals to win No. 9 (national championship) and have a great year. I feel like we all achieve everything that we want to achieve. We all get what we want, and the bottom line is just to win.”

During the off-season, Oweh has been dealing with a toe injury that slowed him down for more than a month, but he said he’s ready for the season.

“I’m feeling pretty good (and) I’m pretty much back now,” he said.

Despite the injury, Kentucky coach Mark Pope has noticed an improvement in Oweh’s leadership on and off the court.

“Otega, of course, has been dealing with his toe, but the



UK Athletics

Otega Oweh mugs for the photographers during the team’s annual media day last week.

way he’s grown as a leader (has been impressive),” he said.

His reputation is lifting expectations this season.

Oweh was voted as the SEC’s preseason Player of the Year on.

The Kentucky guard was picked ahead of Nate Ament of Tennessee, Alex Condon (Florida), Malik Dia (Ole Miss), Boogie Fland (Florida), Thomas Haugh (Florida), Josh Hubbard (Mississippi State) and Auburn’s Tahaad Pettiford in a panel of national and SEC media members.

In his first season with the

Wildcats, Oweh scored double figures in the team’s first 26 games and averaged a team-leading 16.2 points per game and also learned what to expect each game as a Wildcat.

“You’ve just got to be ready to play every single game,” he said. “Every team is gonna give you their best. It’s probably a Super Bowl when they play Kentucky. Just being on your Ps and Qs every single game. That’s the biggest thing I learned my first year at Kentucky.”

The team’s roster also will look a little different, especially in the backcourt. Although

new in UK Blue, the guards don’t lack collegiate experience, especially with the addition of Denzel Alberdeen, who won a national championship at Florida last season.

What does it mean to have a player like Alberdeen on the team?

“It’s huge,” Oweh said. “We will try to make history for him too — win two natties, two different schools, that would be huge and it’s great. He went all the way, and that’s something we have dreams of, to go all the way. Any gems that he gives us is huge. We know that he’s going to go out there and play hard, play aggressive, because he knows how to win. We’re definitely grateful to have Denzel on the team.”

As for the overall make-up of the team. Oweh likes the squad Pope and his staff have assembled.

“I’m excited,” he said. “It’s a great team — super deep. Everyone cares about the game. We’re competitive. I feel like anytime we go to war in the game, the whole team is gonna have our backs. Everyone’s gonna be ready to go, ready to lead the charge. We have a great team and we’re super deep.”

SEC’s Sankey rejects TV revenue sharing idea

BY KRISTIE RIEKEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey said Saturday that combining the TV rights of all conferences to sell together wouldn't serve as a quick fix for college sports and might not be a fix at all.

Sankey, speaking before the Florida-Texas A&M football game, outlined why he doesn't think the pooling of TV rights — an idea that has drawn attention lately — is a good idea. His comments are a direct rebuke of an idea proposed by Texas Tech's billionaire head of regents, Cody Campbell, who said earlier in the week the idea of combining the rights is being held

back because “the conferences are all represented by commissioners who are very, very self-interested.”

“Just as we did for expansion, just as we did for our last media rights negotiation, we'll prepare for our future as the Southeastern Conference,” Sankey said. “I also think it's important to understand there's not some tweak to the Sports Broadcasting Act. The interest of networks, the interest of professional leagues, go well beyond just college sports. And that has to be acknowledged as opposed to simply observe (that) here's a quick fix.”

A bill in Congress co-sponsored by Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., calls for a rewrite of the 1961 Sports Broadcasting Act, which forbids

the conferences from combining their TV rights. Campbell supports that element of Cantwell's recently introduced SAFE Act.

In his presentation Thursday to the oversight group, the Knight Commission, Campbell said the move could be worth \$7 billion, and said commissioners had told him “privately” that they know a modification of that law would generate more revenue, “but I don't want to give up control of my own media-rights negotiation.” Campbell is also running commercials during college football, touting a \$4 billion to \$7 billion revenue increase that could come from pooling and would help save women's and Olympic sports in college.

Trimble battles Oldham to tie-breaker

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Trimble County volleyball's late season skid was extended to five games with losses to Oldham County and Portland Christian on Monday and Tuesday in Bedford but not before the Raiders launched a gutsy comeback against the Colonels to force a tie-breaker.

The Raiders almost pulled out the win in a five-set marathon with the Colonels on Monday before falling 3-0 to 21-7 Portland (25-14, 25-23, 25-18) on Tuesday.

The loss to Oldham (19-9) saw the Raiders battle back from a 2-0 deficit to grind out a pair of 25-23 wins before falling 15-6 in the fifth set tie-breaker (25-15, 25-12, 23-25, 23-25, 15-6).

In the Portland game, the Eagles' Madelyn Syme had 11 kills and nine digs, Micah Olson had eight kills, Sammie King had seven kills Vivienne

Willis had 13 digs and Kaylee Hammond had 36 assists, six kills and six digs.

No individual statistics were available for the Raiders.

The Raiders had a final regular season match Thursday against Cornerstone Christian (10-14) for Senior Night in Bedford before playing border rival Carroll County in the 31st District tournament Monday, Oct. 20 at Gallatin County.

Carroll (4-16, 0-10 District 31), had a game left against Ludlow Thursday to wrap up the Panthers' regular season.

The winner of Monday's Trimble-Carroll tourney game will play second seeded Henry County in the semifinals on Tuesday, Oct. 21. Monday's Owen County vs. Gallatin winner will face top seeded Eminence, now 30-3 overall including 22-1 in the region and 13-0 in the district. The championship game is Wednesday, Oct. 22.

Stoops denies report about contract buyout

BY KEITH TAYLOR
KENTUCKY TODAY

Following the 35-14 loss to Georgia two weeks ago, Kentucky football coach Mark Stoops denied a radio report saying he asked for a buyout last season.

“I’d hate to give anything like that legs,” Stoops told the Lexington Herald-Leader. “There’s zero ... I told you last year. You guys can say or write anything you want about me, but there’s zero chance I’m walking away. You know what I mean? Zero. There’s no quit in me, so that’s unequivocally false.”

Stoops is 2-14 in the team’s last 16 conference games, and his current contract features a \$38 million buyout that is

payable within 60 days of a dismissal by the Kentucky administration.

The Cats (2-3 overall, 0-3 in SEC) play Texas (3-2, 0-1) at home Saturday.

Stoops continued to talk positively, saying the Wildcats can recover from the three conference losses moving forward.

“We talked about those and knocking down some pegs, and moving up,” Stoops said. “I’ve been there and done that. It’s hard. You’ve got to have the right pieces in place. We’re not exactly where we want to be. We’re better than we’ve been in the recent past, but we’re still not where we want to be. We’re missing some pieces, but we’re going to get to work.”



Mark Stoops

LOCAL LEAGUES

**MONDAY, OCT. 13
MADISON CHURCH
VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE
Hallelujah Division**

Mt Pleasant Baptist d. Riverstone No. 2, 25-13, 25-14.

Wirt Baptist No. 2 d. Falls City No. 1, 11-25, 27-25, 15-9.

Falls City No. 2 d. New Heart No. 2, 25-12, 25-14.

24/7 Life No. 2 d. New Heart No. 2, 25-21, 17-25, 15-6.

New Heart No. 1 d. First Baptist, 27-25, 26-24.

Falls City No. 1 d. Falls City No. 3, 22-25, 25-15, 15-6.

Praise Division

24/7 Life No. 1 d. Riverstone No. 1, 25-16, 25-21.

Wirt Baptist No. 1 d. Dupont Baptist, 25-8, 25-14.

Hanover United Methodist d. Dupont Baptist, 25-20, 25-

14.
Wirt Baptist No. 1 d. 24/7 Life No. 1, 25-18, 25-11.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 4
HANOVER PARKS
DEPARTMENT
Youth Volleyball Results**

Orange Crush d. Pink Powerhouse, 16-25, 25-19, 15-7.

Pink Powerhouse d. Purple Passers, 25-20, 25-16.

Mission Unblockable d. Aces, 16-25, 25-23, 15-9.

Sassy Setters d. Cam Defenders No. 1, 11-25, 25-16, 15-5.

Cam Defenders No. 2 d. Bumble Bee Ballers, 25-21, 25-18.

Purple Passers d. Cam Defenders No. 2, 25-16, 25-13.

HANOVER ROUNDUP

Panthers blast Berea in women's soccer, 8-0

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Hanover women's soccer had no problems with Berea, rolling to an 8-0 win at home on Wednesday.

The Panthers scored five goals in the first half to take control and added three more in the second to turn the game into a rout.

Emma Gill recorded a hat trick with three goals to lead Hanover while Maddi Mosby scored two goals. Lily Clark, Hallie Miller and Olivia Patel each added one. Clark and Erin Terry each had two assists, while Cam Horsley, Kaleigh Schirmer and Izzy Phillips each had one.

Hanover, now 5-6-2 overall and 3-2 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, hosts Manchester on Saturday.

MEN'S SOCCER EDGES BERE

Hanover men's soccer came away with a close 2-0 win over Berea Wednesday on the road to remain unbeaten in HCAC play.

Andrew Pavlisko and Patricio Campos each scored a goal for Hanover.

Hanover, now 10-2-2 overall and 5-0 HCAC, plays at Indiana University on Friday and then hosts Manchester on Sunday.

CLASS

FROM PAGE B1

semifinals on Saturday morning and play the winner between North Harrison (15-13) and Charlestown (15-18) in the sectional championship game at 6 p.m.

Southwestern (19-12) and Switzerland County (5-22) each drew byes and will face each other in the semifinals of the Class 2A Sectional at South Ripley (20-12) on Saturday morning. The winner will play either South Ripley, Brown County (11-12) or Austin (10-17) in the championship game at 6 p.m. Saturday.

No. 3 Indiana continues to reach new milestones

For Cignetti, it's business as usual

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indiana Hoosiers coach Curt Cignetti stuck to the game plan Monday.

He quickly turned the page on the program's first road victory over a top-five team and didn't even bother to mention their new No. 3 ranking — the highest in school history — or the increasing commotion about whether quarterback Fernando Mendoza is a legitimate Heisman Trophy contender.

Instead, the brash, 64-year-old Cignetti took the business approach.

"I think the key now is our response, but that's always the response, right?" Cignetti said. "This team has met every challenge to this point because they're humble, humble and hungry. They've prepared properly and put it on the field,



Lydia Ely/AP Photo

Indiana defensive lineman J'Mari Monnette, bottom, celebrates after an NCAA college football game against Oregon on Saturday Eugene, Ore.

which requires commitment, discipline, sacrifice and eliminating the noise and the clutter."

It may be harder to ignore the fanfare this week when Indiana (60, 30 Big Ten) hosts struggling Michigan State (3-3, 0-3).

To Cignetti, of course, it's just another game albeit a chance at another milestone —

retaining the Old Brass Spittoon. The Hoosiers haven't beaten the Spartans in consecutive games since a three-year span from 1967-69.

To Hoosiers fans, though, it's an entirely different scenario. For a second straight season, they're undefeated at the midway point and appear headed toward a second straight playoff berth. The game

was already sold out before the shocking 30-20 victory over then No. 3 Oregon.

And, amazingly with basketball season beckoning in Bloomington, around campus all anyone wants to talk about is football.

Now, though, the guy who challenged reporters by boasting "I win, Google me" and telling fans at a basketball game "Purdue sucks! So does Ohio State and Michigan!" suddenly wants to rein things in.

After Saturday's game, Cignetti joked on the telecast he didn't recognize the guy who uttered those words before acknowledging he needed to say those things to change the program.

Now, with a two-year record of 17-2, no home losses and perhaps the biggest win in program history, Cignetti is content relying on the Hoosiers resume.

"We've got a lot of strong character on this football team, and they're a team," he said.

"And, you know, the team goals supersede the individual goals. Let's face it, when you enter a season, especially nowadays, because you've got a lot of new faces, there's really a lot you don't know about your team, how they're going to respond."

So far, Cignetti's players have had all the right answers.

When the critics complained about their "soft" nonconference schedule — Old Dominion, Kennesaw State and Indiana State — Indiana responded with three wins by a combined score of 156-23.

The Hoosiers quieted those same critics the next week by blowing out then No. 9 Illinois 63-10, the most lopsided victory over a top-10 team in school history.

And when those same critics continued howling after the 20-15 win at unranked Iowa, Cignetti used the bye week to prime the Hoosiers for a game that would silence any doubter. Indiana snapped the FBS' longest active regular-season winning streak at 23

and the longest active home winning streak at 18.

Now comes the biggest test for the Hoosiers, keeping the momentum rolling at home in a game that they're favored by 26 1/2 points, according to BetMgm.com.

"It depends on what we do with it from here," Cignetti said Saturday. "It puts us in position — if we can continue to be successful which means we have to show up to work on Monday as a team, humble, hungry and ready to go against Michigan State."

But around Indiana and around the country, the Hoosiers have become the darlings of college football. Again.

So Cignetti intends to remind his players how they got here in the first place — by sticking to the business at hand.

"This game gives you nothing," he said. "You've got to earn everything, and it's all about our mindset and our preparation."

Top programs turn October exhibitions into early 'March Madness'

BY TERESA M. WALKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee coach Rick Barnes saw a chance to bring Duke to campus for the first time in nearly 50 years and jumped at it.

His No. 18 Volunteers host sixth-ranked Duke on Sunday in an exhibition that sold out minutes after tickets went on sale despite the result not counting. It's much more important to the coaches as a preseason checkup for a pair of programs that finished in the top five last spring.

"I wish we played more of them," Barnes said. "I really do. I think it would help all of us."

Barnes has lots of company. The last weekend of October now looks like the second week of the NCAA Tournament with a bunch of games between power conference opponents providing a fresh revenue source along with a chance to test team chemistry during this time of roster overhauls through the transfer portal and players cashing in on their athletic fame.

The star-power games start up on Friday, with No. 1 Purdue at No. 9 Kentucky, No. 25 North Carolina facing No. 8 BYU in Salt Lake City and No. 19 Kansas at No. 11 Louisville. The next day, No. 5 St. John's plays No. 7 Michigan at Madison Square Garden and on Sunday No. 2 and national runner-up Houston plays Mississippi State while the No. 9 North Carolina State women play No. 10 Maryland.

There are more games like this before the season opens Nov. 3, like No. 22 Michigan State against No. 4 UConn in Hartford, Connecticut, on Oct. 28 and the No. 11 North Carolina women taking on No. 2. South Carolina in Atlanta.



Brandon Dill/AP Photo

North Carolina guard Seth Trimble (7) dunks against Memphis during the Hoops for St. Jude Tip Off Classic NCAA college basketball exhibition game on Tuesday in Memphis, Tenn.

before this season if the proceeds went to charity.

Memphis hosted a doubleheader last October benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Tigers play Arkansas on Oct. 27 with the women hosting No. 19 Vanderbilt in the second Hoops for St. Jude Classic.

The NCAA men's basketball oversight committee approved a rule change in January allowing Division I programs to play two exhibitions without a waiver. Also eliminated was a requirement that the proceeds be donated to charity, and now schools now can split the proceeds however they want.

initially hoped that all D-I programs would play two exhibitions, giving midmajors like his Bruins a chance to bring an opponent from a power league to campus for an exhibition. The rule change was designed to help programs offset expenses from revenue-sharing.

Yet the only exhibition Belmont has scheduled is Tennessee Tech. "That's the reason why you're seeing the high-profile teams playing each other," Alexander said. "It's one more game for them to draw 10- or 15- or 20,000 at home, and therefore a lot of revenue that they can put in their pocket to offset what they're spending."

Duke last visited Tennessee on Dec. 7, 1976, and the Volunteers beat the Blue Devils the last time they met in the first weekend of

the 2023 NCAA Tournament.

Blue Devils coach Jon Scheyer was looking for the toughest game possible to prepare for a challenging nonconference slate. Visiting Tennessee gives him a chance to learn about his reshaped roster after losing all five starters from a Final Four team, including Associated Press national player of the year and No. 1 overall NBA draft pick Cooper Flagg.

It's also a game, even if it doesn't count in the standings, that could resonate all the way to March in preparing the Blue Devils.

"I'm anxious to learn," Scheyer said. "Without trying to shoot every bullet in the chamber that you have, either. That's not what we're trying to do. We're just trying to make sure we're true to who we are. It's

going to be interesting."

BALANCING GAMES THAT DON'T COUNT

Kentucky coach Mark Pope said coaches thought the rule would pass in 2024. He is grateful to finally have the chance to test his Wildcats against No. 1 Purdue and Georgetown in the preseason. Pope even has a number in mind after expanding to 33 games: eight more for 41 a season would be nice.

"It's fun for our fans. I think it's elite for us," Pope said.

There are some power programs playing second exhibitions against neighbors outside the blue blood lines. Purdue hosts Division II Indianapolis on Oct. 29. Indiana scheduled a game against NAIA program Marian while Kansas State will host D-II Newman on Halloween a week after an exhibition against Missouri.

Kansas State coach Jerome Tang said playing a Southeastern Conference program on the road is a great preview for what his Wildcats face this season during the non-conference slate with the likes of Creighton, Mississippi State and Indiana ahead of the Big 12 schedule.

"We might as well start preparing for it early," Tang said. "Every night in the Big 12, we're going to play a team with a number next to their name."

The exhibitions also help replace the secret scrimmages where teams experimented with potential rule changes. Those aren't all gone, with Vanderbilt facing Virginia this week playing by NBA rules with four 12-minute quarters.

Just how vanilla the exhibitions wind up in terms of schemes and sets remains to be seen.

"You get a chance to experiment a little bit more," Scheyer said. "I think in this, you know it's going to be seen. You try to not show everything you have. So it's a tradeoff."

NBA issues memo urging teams to crack down on unruly fan behavior

BY TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

The NBA has reminded teams to prioritize addressing inappropriate fan behavior at games this season.

In a memo sent to all 30 clubs, the league told teams that it wants "consistent and vigilant enforcement of the NBA Fan Code of Conduct ... to deter and address fan misconduct at NBA games and events."

A copy of the memo was obtained Wednesday by The Associated Press.

Fan behavior has been a hot topic across sports for some time. Among the notable incidents in the NBA last season: some fans in Dallas were ejected for their reactions in the days following the team's decision to trade longtime Mavericks star Luka Doncic to the Los Angeles Lakers, and the Minnesota Timberwolves ejected a fan from a playoff game for racially charged comments directed toward Golden State's Draymond Green.

Golf's Ryder Cup was marred this year by hateful chants from some fans toward Rory McIlroy and other



Mike Stewart/AP Photo

Houston Rockets forward Kevin Durant (7) greets fans during the second half of an NBA preseason basketball game against the New Orleans Pelicans on Tuesday in Birmingham, Ala.

members of the European team, which defeated the U.S. to retain that trophy. In baseball, Jarren Duran of the Boston Red Sox was heckled by a fan about his mental health struggles which were chronicled in a Netflix series — the fan was ejected — and two other fans at Yankee Stadium were ejected from a World Series game last year after one pried a foul ball out of the glove of Los Angeles Dodgers right fielder Mookie Betts.

The NBA, in the memo,

told teams that arena staff "must be trained to identify behavior that violates NBA rules and to respond proactively." The NBA, like many leagues, also has a video detailing a code of conduct for fans played in every arena before each game.

"It is critical that teams and arenas vigorously enforce the Code of Conduct and not tolerate any misconduct that impacts our players, fans, or otherwise disrupts the game," the league said.

Purdue's Painter to be honored with Legends of Coaching award

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — Purdue's Matt Painter will receive the Legends of Coaching award as part of the John R. Wooden Award weekend in Los Angeles next spring.

The 55-year-old coach will be honored on April 10 at the Los Angeles Athletic Club,

where the men's and women's Wooden Award winners will be announced.

Painter has guided the Boilermakers to five Big Ten regular-season titles and two league tournament championships since taking over the program in 2005. They've reached the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament six times

in the last eight years. This season's team is ranked No. 1 in the AP men's preseason poll.

Wooden graduated from Purdue, where he was a three-time All-American and helped the Boilermakers win the 1992 national championship. He

SEE PURDUE/PAGE B4

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW IF YOU ARE ON MEDICARE



The annual election period for Part D and C plans is **October 15th to December 7th**. It is always a good idea to have your coverage reviewed. Make sure you have a complete understanding of how your coverage works.

Call your local friendly agent at 812-273-1187



220 Clifty Drive,
Suite C, Madison, IN

"We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options."

Postseason tendon injuries shake up Central Division

BY STEVE MEGARGEE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — Two of the Achilles tendon injuries that shook up the 2024-25 postseason also reshaped the NBA Central Division landscape for the upcoming regular season.

Not only did Indiana lose two-time All-Star guard Tyrese Haliburton for the season after he tore his Achilles tendon in Game 7 of the NBA Finals, the Pacers saw Myles Turner leave for division rival Milwaukee in free agency. The Bucks gained the ability to fit Turner into their salary cap by waiving Damian Lillard, who tore his Achilles tendon during Milwaukee's first-round playoff loss to Indiana.

The unavailability of Haliburton and the loss of Turner create major obstacles for Indiana in its bid to repeat its success from last season.

“There will be some adjustments as we start and keep moving forward,” said Indiana's Rick Carlisle, who needs seven wins to become the 11th coach in league history with 1,000 coaching victories. “Tyrese is really such an unusually important player to us on the one hand. On the other hand, our core principles we want to keep the same. Most of it begins with hard play and fast, hard play, so we'll make adjustments.”

Indiana's upheaval leaves the Cleveland Cavaliers as clear favorites to win a second straight Central Division title. Two-time All-NBA guard Donovan Mitchell leads a team that went 64-18 to lead the Eastern Conference.

The next step is to make a deeper postseason run after two straight second-round exits.

“We're here with renewed energy because we know the talent we have,” Cavaliers coach Kenny Atkinson said. “We know we're in that group of four to six that have a chance at winning this thing.”

Milwaukee's addition of Turner is part of a roster overhaul that has occurred since last season's trade deadline as the Bucks look to bounce back from three straight first-round playoff losses.

“I think ultimately we're a faster, more athletic, more versatile offensively and defensively suited team,” Bucks general manager Jon Horst said.

Here's a look at each Central Division team in predicted order of finish:

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS

The Cavaliers are one of the favorites to win the East with their core four of Mitchell,

Evan Mobley, Darius Garland and Jarrett Allen. Garland will be sidelined for at least the first two months after toe surgery, while Max Strus will also be out at least one month due to foot surgery.

Mobley, the reigning NBA Defensive Player of the Year, had career highs in points (18.5) and assists (3.2) per game last season while expanding his perimeter game to go along with his drives to the lane.

Cleveland was confined by the salary cap, but it did add some valuable bench pieces in Lonzo Ball, Larry Nance Jr. and Thomas Bryant. Atkinson says Ball has been a valuable resource in discussing some strategies on offense and defense.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS

The Bucks want to replicate what worked for them when they surged late last season while Lillard was out with deep vein thrombosis in his right calf. That means surrounding two-time MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo with shooters, attempting more 3-pointers and playing at a faster pace.

Milwaukee wants the ball in Antetokounmpo's hands as much as possible as he builds on the playmaking role he adopted when Lillard was hurt.

The Bucks believe Turner's combination of rim protection and 3-point shooting ability makes him an ideal complement to Antetokounmpo and provides what they lost when 7-footer Brook Lopez signed with the Los Angeles Clippers.

INDIANA PACERS

The Pacers are learning to regroup without Turner or Haliburton, who will miss the entire season. Indiana also won't have backup point guard T.J. McConnell for most of the first month due to a hamstring injury.

That will test Indiana's depth, which was the Pacers' biggest strength during their run to the NBA Finals.

Turner's absence doesn't just hurt Indiana from a defensive standpoint. It also takes away a stretch-5 3-point shooter. Haliburton ranked third in the NBA in assists last season after leading the league in that category in 2023-24.

Without those two players, the Pacers will need another big season from Pascal Siakam, who led the Pacers in scoring (20.2) and rebounding (6.9) last season.

DETROIT PISTONS

The Pistons surprised the NBA with their turnaround last season after having the

league's worst record the previous two years.

They won't sneak up on anyone this season.

Cade Cunningham leads the way, bouncing back from an injury-stunted start of his career after Detroit drafted him No. 1 in 2021.

The Pistons didn't attempt to sign or keep high-priced free agents or to acquire expensive veterans in trades because they don't know if Cunningham's surrounding cast will be part of the team's long-term future.

It's a big year for center Jalen Duren and guard Jaden Ivey because they're eligible for contract extensions.

CHICAGO BULLS

The Bulls opted to stand pat rather than go bold this past summer despite finishing

39-43 for the second straight season and missing the playoffs for the seventh time in eight years.

Their most notable moves were re-signing Josh Giddey, trading Ball to Cleveland for Isaac Okoro and drafting Noa Essengue out of the French Basketball League with the No. 12 pick, yet executive vice president of basketball operations Arturas Karnisovas continues to preach patience. That's a tough ask for a frustrated fan base.

The Bulls have just one playoff appearance since Karnisovas was hired before the 2020-21 season, and they've been knocked out of the play-in tournament by Miami the past three years.

INDIANA LAND COMPANY
OWNER FINANCING
AVAILABLE
(812) 923-9823 &
(812) 246-1500
www.indianalandcompany.com
LEXINGTON 13+ ACRES
OPEN/WOODS BIG CREEK
950 FT RD FRONTAGE
\$159,900
BLOCHER 5 3/4 ACRES
WOODS DRIVEWAY SEPTIC
APPROVED JEFF. CO.
\$79,900
LEXINGTON 7 ACRES
OPEN/WOODS POND &
CREEK UTILITIES AT ROAD
\$95,900
SALEM 4 1/2 ACRES
OPEN/WOODS CREEK
DRIVEWAY SEPTIC APPROVED
\$62,900
LEXINGTON 4+ ACRES
OPEN WITH FENCING UTILITIES
AT ROAD \$69,900
LITTLE YORK 3+ ACRES
WOODED PRIVATE SEPTIC
APPROVED UTILS ROAD
\$51,900
LEXINGTON 4 + ACRES
WOODED SEPTIC APPROVED
DRIVEWAY ON SITE \$69,900
NABB 2+ ACRES
OPEN/FLAT WITH TREES
SEPTIC APPROVED UTILS
AT RD \$39,900
SCOTTSBURG 7 1/2 ACRES
OPEN/WOODS CREEK &
DRIVEWAY \$97,900
LEXINGTON 2+ ACRES
OPEN SOME FENCE UTILS
AT ROAD \$43,900

LEGAL NOTICE

SUMMONS – SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF MADISON

IN THE MADISON CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO. 48C01-2308-MF-000127

BAWLDOGUY NOTE INVESTMENT GROUP 1, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.

STEVEN B. BURKS (Deceased), UNKNOWN HEIR(S)
OF STEVEN B. BURKS, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned: You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint on Note and for Foreclosure of Mortgage related to the rights of the parties to the suit in certain real property known as 2402 S P St, Elwood, IN 46036, which is more particularly described as follows: SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF MADISON, STATE OF INDIANA DESCRIBED AS: A STRIP OF GROUND UNIFORM WIDTH OF FIFTY (50) FEET OFF THE ENTIRE EAST END OF LOTS NUMBERED 127, 128 AND 129 IN KIDSWELL'S SECOND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ELWOOD, INDIANA. PROPERTY ADDRESS 2402 SOUTH P STREET, ELWOOD, INDIANA 46036
PARCEL IDENTIFICATION: 48-04-15-403-152.000-027; 48-04-15-403- 154.000-027; 48-04-15-403-156.000-027
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following defendant whose whereabouts are unknown: Unknown Heir(s) of Steven B. Burks. If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this Notice, and if you fail to do so a judgement will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.

Date: September 25, 2025
Attest: /s/ Linda S. Smith
Clerk, Madison Circuit Court

Douglas Haman (21328-15)
Attorney for Plaintiff
SANDHU LAW GROUP, LLC
1213 Prospect Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, OH 44115
[T] 513-702-2112
[E] doughaman@wdhlaw.com

Notice: This communication is from a debt collector attempting to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON
IN THE JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO.
39C01-2510-PL-000996

KAREN TINGLE,
Plaintiff
VS
ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS
CLAIMING ANY RIGHT,
TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN OR
INTEREST IN THE REAL
PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN
THE COMPLAINT ADVERSE
TO THE PLAINTIFF'S OWNERSHIP,
OR ANY CLOUD UPON
PLAINTIFF'S TITLE
THERETO,
Defendants

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: All Unknown Persons, claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property
Described in the complaint adverse to Plaintiff's ownership, or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title thereto
Whereabouts Unknown

THE STATE OF INDIANA to the above persons named as Defendants and any other person who may be concerned.
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that you have been sued in the court above-named by the person named as Plaintiff. The nature of the suit is a complaint for adverse possession and to quiet title. The complaint was filed on October 9, 2025. The nature of the suit is a complaint for adverse possession and to quiet title to the following described real estate located in Jefferson County, Indiana:
In the City of Madison, and being a part of the northwest quarter of Section 27, Township 4 North, Range 10 East; Beginning at the northwest corner of the North Madison School Lot; thence north parallel with the west line of the School Lot, 100 feet; thence south 69° 30' east, 60 feet; thence south parallel with the west line of the School Lot 100 feet; thence north 69.5° west 60 feet to the place of beginning. ALSO an easement of a roadway; beginning on the north line of School Lot 60 feet east of the northwest corner of School Lot; thence south 69.5° east with said school house lot line 109.5 feet; thence north 18 feet; thence north 69.5° west 109.5 feet; thence south 18 feet to the place of beginning. ALSO part of the northwest quarter of Section 27, Township 4 North, Range 10 East; beginning 140 feet west and 10 feet south of the northeast corner of the southwest quarter of said section; thence south 15° 22' west 100 feet to the northeast corner of North Madison School Lot; said point being 110 feet south 72° 4' east from the northwest corner of original school lot, thence north 15° 22' east 100 feet to a stake; thence south 72° 4' east 50 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 0.115 acres, more or less. ALSO the right to the use, together with others, of an easement of a roadway which begins 34° west 18 feet north of school lot; thence east 16.5 feet and same width along the east side of school lot to Orchard Street, about 13 rods. See Deed Record 122, page 56.
The whereabouts of all Unknown Persons, claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the complaint adverse to Plaintiff's ownership, or any cloud upon Plaintiff's title thereto, are unknown.
You must respond to the suit within thirty (30) days after the last notice of this action is published and, if you fail to do so, judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.
The name and address of the attorney for the Plaintiff is William Joseph Jenner, Jenner, Pattison & Sharpe, 508 East Main Street, Madison, Indiana, 47250, Telephone: (812) 265-5132.
Dated at Madison, Indiana, this 9th day of October, 2025.
/s/ Tabatha Eblen
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Indiana [SEAL]

LEGAL NOTICE

SB#IF2507017
STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)
IN THE JEFFERSON SUPERIOR COURT
CAUSE NO: 39D01-2508-MF-000819

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for LB-Shed Series IV Trust
Plaintiff
vs.
Laura E. Goodwin, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the Defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned: You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint on Note and for Foreclosure of Mortgage on the following described real estate:
LOT NUMBERED SEVENTY-ONE (71), IN HENSLER HEIGHTS, AN ADDITION TO JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 99, IN THE RECORDER'S OFFICE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA.

More commonly known as: 2490 Franks Drive, Madison, Indiana 47250

This Summons by Publication is specifically directed to the following named Defendants whose whereabouts are known to me: None

This Summons by Publication is also specifically directed to the following named Defendants whose whereabouts are unknown to me: Jason Goodwin & Laura Goodwin

In addition to the above-named Defendants being served by this Summons, there may be other Defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer.

You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so, a judgment will be entered against you for what the Plaintiff has demanded.

SOTTILE & BARILE, LLC
By: /s/ Zarksis V. Daroga
Zarksis V. Daroga (17288-49)
Attorney for Plaintiff

ATTEST: 10/1/2025
/s/ Tabitha Eblen
Clerk of the Jefferson Superior Court

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVING SYSTEM (AWOS)
REPLACEMENT MADISON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
MADISON, INDIANA

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Madison Board of Aviation Commissioners, "Owner", via electronic submission, until **11:00 a.m.** (local time), on **November 13th, 2025**, and then will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received later than 11:00 a.m. will be returned unopened.
The public bid opening will be via a virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams. The meeting ID is 289 658 427 256 5. The passcode is Np6Um39Z. Or, Dial in by phone at 1-469-250-9198, phone conference ID: 592 677 44#
DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Work for which proposals are to be received is for the replacement of the AWOS project at the Madison Municipal Airport consisting of removal of the existing AWOS and the installation of a AWOS III P/T equipment on existing structure and necessary incidentals to complete the work as detailed on the Contract Drawings and specified in the Contract Documents titled Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) Replacement. The contractor shall provide all labor, equipment, and material necessary to complete the work. All work is located at the Madison Municipal Airport, 3919 W. IMS Lane, Madison, IN 47250.
BID DOCUMENTS: Copies of the Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc., 500 E 96th Street, Suite 500, Indianapolis, IN 46240, email LHalloran@BFSEngr.com or call 317-713-4615. Copies of the documents are available for examining at the Madison Municipal Airport, BXIndiana Construction League, 1028 Shelby Street, Indianapolis, Indiana; and the online plan-rooms of Dodge Construction Network / ConstructConnect™, and at the office of Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc., 500 E 96th Street, Suite 500, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Copies of the bid documents will be made available through one of the following methods:

- as digital files made available to the planholder for download

- as hard copies picked up at the office of the Engineer upon remittance of \$125

This remittance is not refundable. Payment shall be by money order or check and shall be made payable to Butler, Fairman, and Seufert, Inc. Bidders are required to be a plan holder of record having obtained the contract documents through the office of the Engineer. **Bids not meeting this requirement will be deemed non-responsive.**
Bids shall be properly executed and addressed to the address shown above where bids are to be received together with the documents required by the bid forms, specifications, and related legal documents contained in the Contract Documents.
No Bidder may withdraw his proposal within a period of one hundred and twenty (120) days following the date set for the receiving of bids. The Owner reserves the right to retain any and all bids for a period of not more than one hundred and twenty (120) days and said bid shall remain in full force and effect during said time. The Owner further reserves the right to waive informalities and to award the Contract to any Bidder all to the advantage of the Owner or to reject all bids.
BID SECURITY: A bid bond with good and sufficient surety issued by a company licensed to do business in the State of Indiana or a certified check on a solvent bank equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid insuring that if the bid is accepted, a contract will be entered into and the performance of its proposal secured.
BONDS: A Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of 100 percent of the Contract price will be required.
FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS: The Owner, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

1. The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order No. 11246 of September 24, 1965, equal opportunity clause, and to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

2. The Bidder must supply all the information required by the bid or proposal form.

INDIANA REQUIREMENTS: Each bid shall be accompanied by bidder's financial statement, a statement of experience, a proposed plan or plans for performing the public work, and the equipment that bidder has available for the performance of the public work. Such statements shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the State Board of Accounts, including Bid Forms 96, together with the required non-collusion affidavit.
Wage rates on the project shall not be less than the prescribed scale of wages as determined in accordance with the most recent Wage Rate Decision of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor; all acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.
No pre-bid conference is scheduled. Any firms bidding this project may request a site visit through the Engineer.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any formalities in the bidding procedure.

MADISON BOARD OF AVIATION COMMISSIONERS,
MADISON, IN



Craig Pessman/AP Photo

Purdue' head coach Matt Painter reacts during an NCAA college basketball game against Illinois on March 7 in Champaign, Ill.

PURDUE

FROM PAGE B3

later coached UCLA to a record 10 national titles.

The Wooden Award marks its 50th anniversary next spring.

MADISON COURIER
CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Publication Date	Deadline
Tuesday	Thursday 4 PM
Friday	Tuesday 4 PM

Contact Customer Service at
(812) 265-3641 • classifieds@madisoncourier.com
Monday–Friday 8AM–4PM
*Holidays advance deadlines by 24 hours.

Bengals have confidence with Flacco at quarterback

BY JOE REEDY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Joe Flacco has given the Cincinnati Bengals a jolt of confidence after one start. Next up on the to-do list is getting the Bengals (2-4) back on the winning track. Flacco passed for 219 yards and two touchdowns in Cincinnati's 27-18 loss at Green Bay on Sunday. Most of Flacco's production came after the Bengals fell behind 10-0 at halftime.

The Bengals have been outscored 79-9 in the first half during their four-game skid and are one of three teams to not have a first- or second-quarter touchdown during that span. "We want to win. We're hungry for it. We got to do a better job from start to finish getting that done, but there's a lot here," coach Zac Taylor said Monday. Making his first start after the Bengals got him in a trade with the Cleveland Browns, Flacco quickly established connections with star receivers Ja'Marr Chase and Tee Higgins. Chase had 10 receptions for 94 yards and a TD, while Higgins added five catches for 62 yards. Flacco led the Bengals to two touchdowns and a field goal on the first three drives of the second half. The 40-year-old completed



Matt Ludtke/AP Photo

Cincinnati Bengals' Joe Flacco sits on the bench before an NFL football game between the Green Bay Packers and the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday in Green Bay, Wis.

21 of 30 passes for 179 yards after halftime. The Bengals and Flacco also benefit from his first two opponents. He faced Green Bay three weeks earlier, when he was with Cleveland, and Thursday night will be his 25th career start against the Pittsburgh Steelers, including the playoffs. Flacco came off the bench for the Indianapolis Colts last season and completed 16 of 26 passes for 168 yards and two touchdowns in a 27-24 win over the Steelers. Now he'll try to salvage the Bengals' season while Joe Burrow recovers from toe surgery. "I know it's easy to be down on yourself in hard

times, but you know, playing with confidence shows. So, we got to find a way to kind of get some of that back, but I think we do have the ability to do that," Flacco said after Sunday's game. "We got a big week coming up, and these division games are always good matchups and going in and playing a good game this upcoming week could help a lot with that." **WHAT'S WORKING** Keeping penalties to a minimum. After being flagged 17 times for 95 yards the past two games, the Bengals were penalized only three times for a season-long 17 yards against the Packers.

Bengals are going all-in on rookies as Carter takes over at linebacker

BY CHARLIE GOLDSMITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Between Week 3 and Week 5, Cincinnati Bengals defensive coordinator Al Golden used a rotation at middle linebacker between veteran and team captain Logan Wilson and rookie Barrett Carter.

But then for last Sunday's matchup against the Green Bay Packers, Carter took over as the starter and played every snap. "It definitely builds a lot of confidence," Carter said. "That's what they told us coming in: They didn't draft us to come in and not play. That's what the plan was. For us to come in and help this team." Carter played all 61 defensive snaps in the Bengals' 27-18 loss to the Packers. Only the New York Jets and the Cleveland Browns are counting on rookies more than the Bengals, who could possibly start five rookies this Thursday against the first-place Pittsburgh Steelers. There are only seven rookie linebackers who have made a start this season, and two of them are Bengals. Only 20 rookie offensive linemen have made a start, and two of them are Bengals. Only 51 rookies in the NFL have made at least three starts this season. Three of them



Mike Roemer/AP Photo

Green Bay Packers running back Josh Jacobs (8) runs against Cincinnati Bengals linebacker Barrett Carter (49) in the first half of an NFL football game on Sunday in Green Bay, Wis.

are Bengals. Defensive end Shemar Stewart, who has been out since Week 2 with an ankle injury, and Carter are on their way to joining that list. "We're not going to hesitate to play guys that we think have a lot of potential for us," Bengals coach Zac Taylor said. "There's going to be some growing pains there. But all the guys that we have, they're intelligent guys. It's important to them. They're mature. And so we're going to get them out there. And they've earned it." Against the Packers, rookie linebackers Demetrius Knight Jr. and Carter combined for 11 solo tackles. They combined to be a part of a key third down blitz which created a pressure that forced an

interception, and the Bengals' run defense was good for the bulk of the game. But Carter and Knight also made a few mistakes, including a touchdown run by Packers running back Josh Jacobs where neither linebacker filled an open run lane up the middle. "Anytime you put a rookie out there, there's an element of risk to it," Taylor said. "When are you going to expose yourself to that risk? Are you going to do it sooner rather than later? I just felt (Carter) showed enough to (have us) continue to work through it. We're going to see constant improvement every single game. And so again, a lot of confidence in him. We'll continue with that moving forward."

PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

CLASSIFIED ADS

CALL TO PLACE YOUR AD IN PRINT AND ONLINE IN INDIANA

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acculevel. Your foundation repair and basement waterproofing experts. Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home. Act now! Up to \$600 off. Restrictions apply. Call for a free consultation. 1-877-229-019

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution.

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-888-965-1444 or visit dorranceinfo.com/hoosier

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-572-5165

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-244-7025 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/hoosier)

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-885-8931

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Do you know what's in your water? Leaf Home Water Solutions offers FREE water testing and whole home water treatment systems that can be installed in as little one day. 15% off your entire purchase. Plus 10% senior & military discounts. Restrictions apply. Schedule your FREE test today. Call 1-855-966-4836

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-414-2352 today!

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

FreedomCare. Let your loved ones care for you and get paid! Paid by Medicaid. Choose family or friends as your paid caregiver. Check your eligibility today! Call FreedomCare now! 1-844-563-4012

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

New windows from Window Nation. Special money saving offer - zero down, zero payments, zero interest for TWO years AND buy 2 windows and get 2 FREE! Offer is valid for select models. Labor not included. Other restrictions apply. Call Window Nation today! 866-553-0725

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-877-361-4260 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 75% off installation and a bonus \$250

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

discount! Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-930-327

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-866-953-2203 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton® PowerProtect(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty - 7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-877-798-0270

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-866-781-602

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-743-1911

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

SunSetter. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-855-801-2797

0100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-855-655-7718

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MADISON- CBJ Properties One bedroom apartments on Madison Hilltop. Clean and quality maintained. Starting at \$640/mo. plus electric. Laundry facilities available. References, background check and deposit required. 12-month lease only. No smoking. Call (812)265-6050 for an app.

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MADISON- CHATEAU MANOR - Quiet hilltop neighborhood with sidewalks and shade trees at corner of Cragmont and Mouser. Spacious 2BR Apartments with renovated kitchen and bathroom, dishwasher, washer/dryer hookup, Abundant closet space and deck. Rent \$700 - \$795. Deposit \$650. References required. Visit chateaumanagerapts.com or Call (812)273-3375

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COAL CITY- RENT TO OWN Large 3BR, large yard, all electric, \$350/ mo. (812)859-4359

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR LEASE MADISON HILLTOP LOCATION - 2436 Green Hills Dr - 3 BR, 1½ Bath, Family Room, Living Room, Sunroom, Fireplace, 2 car garage. Excellent location. Pet Restriction. Available Nov 1. Looking for long term lease \$1800 per month/\$1500 deposit. Call for application (812) 599-6570.

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MADISON- MADISON HEIGHTS Quiet, park-like setting. Fast and friendly maintenance. Hilltop complex, centrally located behind Big Lots. Apartments and townhomes: \$875-1200/mo. To apply, visit dogwoodmanagement.com or call (812) 273-5057.

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MADISON- SUGGETT SCHMIDT PROPERTIES Quality rentals for over 30 years. Over 90 exceptionally clean well maintained conveniently located properties in Madison Very reasonably priced homes, duplexes, townhouses and apartments ranging from \$800 to \$1300 per month. (812)265-2020 or suggettschmidtproperties.com. Click contact us to download/fill out application.

0600 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

MADISON - The Presidential Estates & Windridge Apartments. Now accepting applications for 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom apartments. Applications are taken Mon., Wed. & Fri. from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Rent based on income. Apply at Rental Office, located at 2855 Windridge Dr. Equal Housing Opportunity Call (812)273-3363 T.D.D.#1-800-743-3333

QUICK MONEY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

CLOSETS BULGING? Sell Your Stuff in the Classifieds!

Stay in the know, on the go!

Your TRUSTED, COMMUNITY Newspaper is available IN PRINT & ONLINE.

Hand holding a smartphone displaying the newspaper's website with a world map and news headlines.

Cup of coffee.

>>>>

Your NEWS. Your Way.

Taylor's reliability helps keep Colts steady in the good times and the strange times

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Jonathan Taylor did what he does best for the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday: He kept them grounded.

On a strange day when they lost their No. 2 quarterback and top cornerback because of pregame injuries, it was the Colts' star running back who steadied the team with another strong performance. He rushed 21 times for 123 yards and scored the go-ahead touchdown with 4:32 left in a 31-27 victory over Arizona.

For Taylor, these sorts of performances have become increasingly commonplace while attracting more attention as the Colts (5-1) have ascended to the top of the AFC South and have one of the league's best records. And, it's not a fluke, according to his teammates.

"I don't think any of us know what he's really capable of, but I think he's going to show us this year," receiver Michael Pittman Jr. said Monday, before being asked if he thought his longtime teammate was the NFL's best running back.

"For me, personally, there's no doubt," Pittman said. "I think the things he's doing at a consistent level, no one else is doing that."

Taylor's reliability allows the Colts to overcome so many obstacles, including the strange pregame injuries Sunday. Coach Shane Steichen said Monday the team would likely discuss ways to prevent a repeat of the pregame drama, though he also described them as freak accidents.

And yet again Taylor didn't miss a beat.

How good has he been? With two Monday night games remaining in Week 6, Taylor continues to lead the league in carries (115), rushing (603 yards) and TD runs (seven). Christian McCaffrey of San Francisco and Ashton



Michael Conroy/AP Photo

Indianapolis Colts' Jonathan Taylor is congratulated after a touchdown run during the second half of an NFL football game against the Arizona Cardinals Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025, in Indianapolis.

Jeanty of Las Vegas are the only other players with 100 or more carries and nobody else has more than 476 yards.

Plus, Taylor has proven he's a capable receiver and his upbeat personality is a hit in the locker room.

But on the field, Taylor has been the biggest part of this winning formula because he can make plays, big or small, lighten the burden on quarterback Daniel Jones and open things up for other receivers. "You appreciate it," Steichen said. "It's fun to watch as a coach when that ball gets handed off to him and he makes the plays. It's impressive to watch, for sure."

WHAT'S WORKING
Offensive line. The Colts expected their offensive line to be a strength this season, but it's been better than advertised. Jones has only been sacked five times this season and he had plenty of time to find open receivers Sunday. They've also been creating those big holes for Taylor.

WHAT NEEDS HELP
Pregame warmups. QB Anthony Richardson went on the inactive list with a fractured orbital bone, the result of mishap while working with an elastic band. Starting CB Charvarius Ward was ruled out about 30 minutes before kickoff after

colliding with TE Drew Ogletree put Ward in the concussion protocol.

STOCK UP
WR Josh Downs. The third-year receiver didn't produce gaudy numbers, finishing with six catches for 42 yards. But he did score a touchdown and he came up with critical catches throughout the game to keep the offense moving.

STOCK DOWN
Richardson. It's not just that Jones continues to play well and win games, one of the knocks against Richardson heading into season was his inability to stay healthy. Now he's expected to miss multiple weeks after this latest bizarre incident, which won't help him shed the label of being injury prone.

INJURIES
Indy didn't add any additional names to their injury list during Sunday's game. But there certainly are some concerns. The Colts' pass defense struggled mightily without Ward (concussion protocol). Rookie quarterback Riley Leonard served as the backup against Arizona, but the Colts will likely be looking to add a veteran free agent quarterback this week.

KEY NUMBER
10 — The Colts have been one of the league's best at scoring points, but over the past two weeks Indy is a perfect 10 for 10 in the red zone, all touchdowns.

NEXT STEPS
There's little to quibble with offensively or on special teams. But without Ward, the Colts defense showed some cracks in the passing game. Indy must get that fixed before heading back to Los Angeles or Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert could have a big day.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

Stucker, who slid in front of a shot to protect an open goal — a play that Rogers said may have won the game.

"I have never seen him do that," Rogers said. "If that goal goes in, it's a different game. I think that's the difference."

With the defense locking Oldenburg down, it was the offense's responsibility to win the game — specifically the Higgins brothers. Jaxon Higgins, who had a goal and three assists in the Rebels' sectional championship win over Trinity Lutheran, broke free from the Oldenburg defense and beat goalie Ryan Hautman one-on-one to put the Rebels on the board late in the first half.

The play of the game then came midway through the second when older brother Kaedon Higgins scored a goal that was a sight to behold, charging into the box at full speed with a defender on his hip as senior Connor Johnson flipped a pass up high toward his head. Without breaking stride, Higgins launched into the air, deflected the ball with his head and sent a high-arching shot toward the net. The ball was placed perfectly over Hautman's head and into the goal.

"Higgins is just that player that every single coach wishes they had. He will just sprint toward the ball. He doesn't care if he gets it. He's going to sprint again and again and again. He's always going to make those runs," Rogers said. "And he's one of the best aerial players I've ever seen, especially at a high

school level. He can jump through the roof and he timed that header perfectly. He was basically on the end line and somehow finds the back of the net. But that's just because he works hard at what he does, and he knows what he's good at."

Kaedon Higgins' final goal was pedestrian by comparison, but just as effective and lethal, beating the defense to the box and flipping a shot over the goalie and into the net.

Southwestern ended up with more overall shots in the game, 19-17, but Oldenburg had the advantage in shots on goal, 13-10. There was only one corner kick in the entire game, by Oldenburg (11-5-4).

Southwestern will now face No. 10 Indianapolis Scecina in the regional championship game at Knightstown on Saturday. It will be another higher-ranked opponent for the Rebels but Rogers noted his players are confident and believe they can play with anybody.

"I was telling them that Jefferson County has never had a soccer team win a regional. Southwestern has never had a soccer team win the regional and this is our third time we've made it to a regional final," Rogers said. "I really think this group can get over the hump with how hard they work, how bought-in they are. I'm trying to be humble, and by no means am I trying to brag, but we have beaten a lot of ranked teams and that's just because we have a special group that just wants to win. They'll do whatever it takes to win. So why not just add to that on Saturday?"

YOUR CUSTOMER JUST READ THIS AD.
ADVERTISE WITH US

BUSINESSES & SERVICES Directory

BUILDING MATERIALS

HILLTOP
SUPPLY AND HARDWOOD
(859)240-4157

- Solid Hardwood Flooring starting at .99 per sqft
- Pine Shiplap starting at .49 per lf
- Waterproof LVP
- Trim, Baseboard, Stairs, and MORE
- Sandpaper, Stain, and Polyurethane
- 2 convenient locations
- Delivery available

CONSTRUCTION

POST FRAME BUILDINGS
Built On Your Lot!
60 Years Experience
Large Selection of Colors & Sizes
Material packages available.

Gosman, Inc.
Madison, Indiana
812-265-5290
www.gosmaninc.com

24x24x8	1-16x7 garage door
1-3' door	Concrete floor
	\$12,900
30x40x10	1-16x8 garage door
1-3' door	Concrete floor
	\$22,900
40x80x14	1-16x10 garage door
1-3' door	Concrete floor
	\$46,900

CONSTRUCTION

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT AND YOUR FAMILY WITH QUALITY ROOF MAINTENANCE SERVICES FROM THE PROFESSIONALS.

Marcus Meadows
Insurance Relations Manager

SANDUSKY CONSTRUCTION

Make sure your roof maintenance, installation or repairs are being performed by a trusted and experienced professional. With many years of experience and a top-notch reputation in this community, we stand behind the quality and value of our work, so you don't have to worry.

INSURANCE ROOF SPECIALISTS

(502) 663-1069
gsxr1000bill@yahoo.com

CONSTRUCTION

PETTIT Contracting LLC
Roofing
PREFERRED CONTRACTOR

Roofing • Siding • Windows • Insulation
Decks • Remodeling

16 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Insured • Free Estimates
Residential • Commercial
Licensed and Fully Insured
in Business since 2000

812-265-7663

www.pettitcontracting.com
je@pettitcontracting.com

FENCING

Double L Fencing
High Tensile, Woven Barb & Board Fencing
Free Estimates

812-599-8827
Leon King

FENCING

ABC Fence
"A Better Choice"

- Privacy • ChainLink • Masonry • Pasture
- Split Rail • Brick • Ornamental • Porches & Decks

(812) 701-0502

YOUR AD HERE

MADE YOU LOOK

Get your business in front of thousands of customers for as low as \$20 a week.
Call Shelley at 812-265-3643 today!

LOCK SERVICE

LEE'S LOCK SERVICE, INC
CERTIFIED • INSURED • LOCKSMITH

LEE SMITH

PH. 812-274-9381 CELL 812-820-2655
600 Green Rd. • Madison, Inc 47250
leeslockserviceinc.com

PLUMBING

RJ Plumbing REPAIR
FULLY INSURED
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

- Sewer & Drain Cleaning
- Bathroom Remodeling
- Water & Sewer Line Replacement

812.599.1650

YOUR AD HERE

A deal so good it's

SCARY!

Advertise your business twice a week in the Madison Courier for only \$20! Call Shelley today at 812-265-3643 to get started.

ROOFING

B & R ROOFING & GENERAL CONTRACTING

- Decks
- Porches
- Garages
- Vinyl Siding
- Soffit
- Fascia

(812) 701-1705

CLEANING

Moore's Custom Cleaning Service LLC
Wayne & Donna Moore

Home • Office • Business
Rental Cleanup & Haul Away
Repo Cleanup & Haul Away
Free Estimates • Fully Insured

Wayne Moore 812.560.0899
Donna Moore 812.592.6662
Angela Hartwell 812.592.4013
Call us with all your cleaning needs!



Steve Marcus/AP Photo
Denny Hamlin celebrates in victory lane after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race on Sunday in Las Vegas.

How Hamlin's emotional win at Las Vegas has him back in title contention

BY JENNA FRYER
AP AUTO RACING WRITER

LAS VEGAS — Denny Hamlin has been NASCAR's main character this season, from his lawsuit against NASCAR and his weekly, opinion-laden podcasts to the defining role he played in setting the final eight drivers in the playoff field.

He could be the busiest driver in the Cup Series; he also welcomed the birth of his third child in June, an occasion that caused him to skip NASCAR's race in Mexico City.

Through it all, he has prevailed.

At Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Sunday, he became the first driver to lock up a berth in the championship-deciding season finale — his first appearance in the winner-take-all race since 2021 — with his series-best sixth win of the season. It was win No. 60 for Hamlin, which was always his career goal, and cemented him as not only the winningest driver in Joe Gibbs Racing history but also for Toyota.

It was the most emotional anyone has ever seen Hamlin in his two-plus decades racing in NASCAR. His 75-year-old father, a Virginia native who mortgaged his home multiple times, signed up for every credit card possible and nearly bankrupted the family trying to get his son to the top level of racing.

Hamlin wanted No. 60 for his father. A three-time Daytona 500 winner, he is considered the greatest driver to never win a championship and now wants to give a Cup title to his dad. He was in tears the final three laps, emotional on his radio on his cool-down lap and needed to compose himself on the

frontstretch as he collected his checkered flag.

“I’m probably softer than what I put off. I maybe shed a tear during a love story on a movie or something if it’s a really emotional moment. I’ll never let my kids see it. But I do have feelings. I know it’s hard to believe,” Hamlin said. “I just know how much work it took for this to happen. It didn’t just happen. It wasn’t just luck. It just was so gratifying because of all the things I talked about.

“Maybe y’all played recreational sports as a kid, had that game-winning moment, but it’s just so big for me personally because this is what I do, this is what I’m paid to do,” he continued. “It will take a few days for it all to sink in. I knew there was no chance I was holding it back, no chance. Just let it go.”

It’s been a tough month for Hamlin alongside his father’s health woes:

— He spun JGR teammate Ty Gibbs at New Hampshire in a playoff race when he believed Gibbs, a non-title contender and grandson of the team owner, should not have been racing him so hard.

— He raced Bubba Wallace, who drives for Hamlin at 23XI Racing (the team co-owned by Michael Jordan that is suing NASCAR), too hard in the closing laps at Kansas in pursuit of No. 60. The battle cost Hamlin the win and Wallace a spot in the round of eight of the playoffs.

— Last week at Charlotte, his last-lap pass of Ross Chastain prevented Chastain from eliminating Joey Logano from the round of eight. Logano is the reigning Cup champion and winner of two of the last three titles. Hamlin complained he didn’t know

the points picture and NASCAR is now eyeing all playoff drivers for possible race manipulation.

Hamlin has tuned it all out in a remarkable way.

“Probably nobody has more going on in their life than Denny. But he has an amazing ability I think to kind of handle all of it, all the stuff that’s going on in his life right now,” Gibbs said. “Most of us would say how does he handle that? I’m probably one of those.”

Chris Gayle, who is in his first season as crew chief for Hamlin and has never advanced to the championship race, says Hamlin has a remarkable ability to compartmentalize.

“I don’t care what’s going on, whatever controversy last week, lawsuit related, he’ll walk in, ‘OK, it’s time to go to work,’” Gayle said. “Not once do we have conversations about all the other stuff going on in his life. Not once. I think he does a good job of focusing on the task at hand in front of him.”

Hamlin likens all this to three-time NASCAR champion and Hall of Famer Tony Stewart, a former Gibbs driver who always thrived when his personal life was at its most disruptive points.

“The cliché things I’ve said is thriving in chaos. The record would show it,” Hamlin said. “There’s absolutely a correlation to the more stuff that goes on, the more that you’re going to get out of me in those moments. It’s really, really hard to do.”

As for the win at Las Vegas that has him back into title contention? “I’m going to take a mental break from racing a little bit,” he said.

It might just be what he needs to finally get that Cup title.

Russell and Antonelli staying with Mercedes F1 team in 2026

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRACKLEY, England — George Russell and Kimi Antonelli will stay with Mercedes in Formula 1 next year after the team finally concluded a drawn-out contract renewal process.

In a statement Wednesday, Mercedes didn’t give any details of the contracts other than that five-time F1 race winner Russell and his rookie teammate Antonelli will stay with the team in 2026.

Russell won his second race of the year at the Singapore Grand Prix this month, which strengthened Mercedes’ push to finish second behind McLaren in the constructors’ championship. Both he and Antonelli came through Mercedes’ development program in junior series.

“Confirming our driver lineup was always just a matter of when, not if. We wanted to take our time, handle the negotiations properly and make sure everyone, on all sides, was happy,” team principal and chief executive Toto Wolff said in a statement.

“I’m pleased we have done that. George and Kimi have proved a strong pairing and we’re excited to continue our



Vincent Thian/AP Photo
Mercedes driver George Russell of Britain kisses his trophy as he celebrates after winning the Singapore Formula One Grand Prix at the Marina Bay Street Circuit on Sunday in Singapore.

journey together.”

In June, Russell suggested one reason for a delay in contract talks might be that Mercedes was speaking to Max Verstappen, who eventually confirmed he was staying with Red Bull. He also said that his unusually close contractual relationship with the team gave him less leverage over the process than other drivers.

“From my side, Mercedes manage me as well, so it’s not really a deadline in my hands as such,” Russell said at the British Grand Prix in July.

Russell and Antonelli had

relatively few options elsewhere, with the only open seats at Red Bull as Verstappen’s teammate, at its sister team Racing Bulls or at Alpine.

Antonelli started his first F1 season strongly and set a record for the youngest driver on pole position when he qualified first for a sprint race in Miami in May.

A poor run of results in the European part of the season led to Wolff branding his performance “underwhelming” at his home Italian Grand Prix, something the driver said he’d use as extra motivation.

Schumacher returns to Indianapolis for IndyCar road course laps

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Mick Schumacher enjoyed getting a first-hand view of the Indianapolis 500 in May.

Whether he’ll make Indy his next racing stop is yet to be determined.

The 26-year-old son of seven-time Formula 1 champion Michael Schumacher spent Monday taking laps on Indianapolis Motor Speedway’s 14-turn, 2.439-mile road course in the No. 75 Honda, and afterward the soft-spoken younger driver smiled when asked about racing in the United States full time.

“I’ve been interested in doing a test in Indy for a while now, and I did see some of the guys that race full time at some of the F1 events across the past two years and they always said how fun it was,” Schumacher said. “So I just wanted to see what the car felt like and so far, so good. The people are very great to work with, so, yeah, I’m happy to be here and happy to drive the car.”

Schumacher may be looking for a fresh start after his once-promising career got derailed in Europe.

After winning the Formula 2 championship in 2020, he made the jump to the Haas F1 team. But two seasons of sub-par results and expensive crashes cost him his job.

In 2023, he landed as a reserve driver with Mercedes-AMG Petronas and also drove a Mercedes entry for the past two seasons in the FIA World Endurance series.

Now, with his 2026 plans still uncertain and most of the F1 seats locked up through next season, Schumacher is considering a move he’s watched other European drivers make successfully.

His first chance in an



Michael Conroy/AP Photo
Race driver Mick Schumacher drives through a turn as he participates in auto racing testing on the road course at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Monday in Indianapolis.

IndyCar came on the road course initially built for an F1 race, which his father won five times. Michael Schumacher continues to battle a traumatic brain injury he suffered in a skiing accident in 2013.

Mick Schumacher was too young to remember attending any of his dad’s races at Indy and the road course has since undergone modifications.

Still, the younger Schumacher looked like a natural as he joined Alexander Rossi, Christian Rasmussen, Caio Collet, Dennis Hauger, Lochie Hughes and James Roe. Schumacher turned the fastest lap of the group in the first three hours of testing.

“IndyCar comes the closest to what I can still race,” he said. “I can’t go back (to F2) because I won a championship. IndyCar might be a good option. Obviously, my target the past couple of years has been to go back to F1, but that option hasn’t quite opened up this year or the years previous to that. So, at some point I want to race again in single-seaters, and therefore (this) option is a good one.”

Switching series does pose some challenges for Schumacher.

He, like many European

racers, has never competed on ovals. IndyCar organizers have scheduled six of next season’s 17 races on ovals, including the fastest of them all — the Indianapolis 500.

Though there have been some IndyCar drivers who specialized in either oval racing or street and road course racing, that’s not what Schumacher intends to do.

“That’s what the championship is about, and I think it would be wrong to say ‘OK, I’m just going to do one part of it — if I commit,’” he said.

Schumacher also understands there’s a difference in the role IndyCar drivers play on a team compared with what is expected in F1, a difference he embraced while working with the Rahal Letterman Lanigan team in preparation for Monday’s audition.

“I like that mentality of the driver being the main part of the team and trying to drive that team forward,” Schumacher said. “I’ve spent a couple of days with the team and it’s been great to see what their direction has been.”

But the determining factor could come down to one thing — having fun racing again. And it’s a decision Schumacher knows must happen soon.

Catch This!

You always score when you subscribe!

THE MADISON COURIER

Inspiring And Informative Local News
About Your Family, Your Friends, And Your Community

1 Year Subscription for \$40.00

All Access Includes The Madison Courier Print Edition & 24/7 @ madisoncourier.com

Don't Delay - Order Today! Local delivery area only.
Offer Expires November 7th, 2025!

YOUR BILLING INFORMATION

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____ HOME/PHONE _____
EMAIL _____
CELL PHONE _____
CREDIT/DEBIT CARD # _____
EXPIRES (MM/YY) _____ CVV# _____
(Last 3 digits on back of card)



All information and payment required to receive this special non-refundable offer. Offer only available to new subscribers in our local delivery area who have not had a subscription in the last 3 months. If you respond to this offer but do not qualify for introductory pricing, the expiration date will be prorated to match the payment to your current rate. Your subscription includes 24/7 digital access to all content available online. Your subscription expiration stop is automatic after a 28-day grace period. All rates include KY sales tax, where applicable. Yes, I authorize The Madison Courier to instruct my credit/debit card company to debit my credit/debit card account as I have requested above. Hurry! Offer expires November 7th, 2025.

2 WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE!

- **CALL**
812-265-3641
- **CLIP & MAIL**
P.O. Box 1480
Owensboro, KY 42302